



PW

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NOVEMBER 7, 2016

**THE
NEXT
EPIC
STARTS
HERE**

**DC UNIVERSE
REBIRTH**

ALL-NEW VOLUME 1s

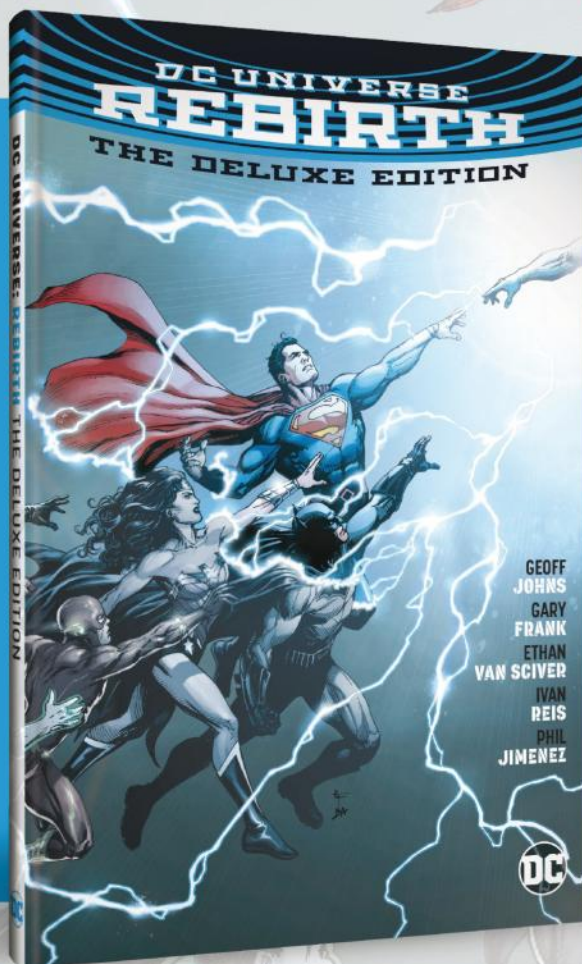


DC UNIVERSE REBIRTH

IT ALL BEGINS HERE

"A SPECIAL STORY that's meant to change the status quo of DC's comic book universe."

GQ MAGAZINE



DC UNIVERSE: REBIRTH THE DELUXE EDITION

Written by
GEOFF JOHNS

Art by
**PHIL JIMENEZ, ETHAN VAN SCIVER, IVAN REIS
AND GARY FRANK**

Honoring the past,
protecting our present, and
looking toward the future.

This is the next chapter in the
ongoing saga of the DC Universe.

The legacy continues.

"Inject[s] HEART AND HUMANITY back into the
lives and adventures of DC Comics' iconic superheroes."

USA TODAY

"All the artists in this book are really on their A-GAME."

NERDIST

"The return of so many long-lost characters is
CAUSE FOR CELEBRATION."

PASTE MAGAZINE

"A BIG SHAKEUP that could pique the interest of
people outside the nerd inner-circle."

VULTURE

"A JAW-DROPPING twist that will have
implications for years to come."

YAHOO! MOVIES



AVAILABLE IN HARDCOVER NOVEMBER 29, 2016
ISBN: 978-1-4012-7072-8 | \$17⁹⁹/\$23⁹⁹ CAN

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The publisher has a 20-point lead in market share over HarperCollins, the second-largest U.S. children's publisher.

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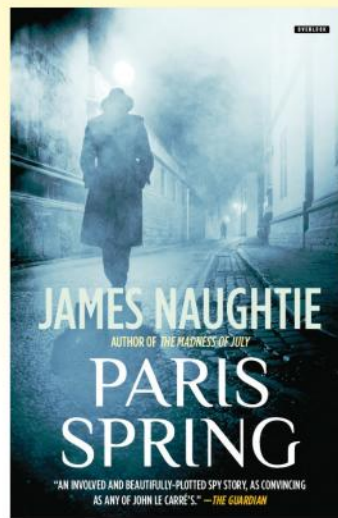
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12 A Talk with Thomas Friedman

The bestselling author and columnist tells us about how society can cope with the rapid pace of change. Friedman's new book, *Thank You for Being Late*, is due out November 22.



★ Paris Spring

James Naughtie. Overlook, \$26.95 (336p) ISBN 978-1-4683-1176-1

Fans of John le Carré and Len Deighton will welcome Naughtie's superior spy thriller, a prequel to 2014's *The Madness of July*. The characters' struggles between personal and public responsibilities play out against a background rarely used in espionage fiction—the growing unrest in Paris in April 1968. The city is “on the brink of an eruption,” as an author's note explains, after Charles de Gaulle's government proves to be unprepared for France's “cauldron of youthful anti-establishment unrest.” British operative Will Flemyng, who appeared in the previous book as a government minister, is approached by a German man calling himself Kristof, who quickly gets Will's attention by promising to reveal something very interesting about Will's younger brother, Abel. Kristof's suggestion that Abel is working against the West puts Will in a tough place, as he tries to do his duty to both his country and his kin. Will's juggling act becomes trickier after the body of an American reporter, Grace Quincey, turns up in the Père Lachaise cemetery. Naughtie draws on his experience as a political correspondent for the *Washington Post* and Britain's *the Guardian* to make the story's dramatic developments plausible. *Agent: Amanda Ridout, Head of Zeus (U.K.). (Jan.)*

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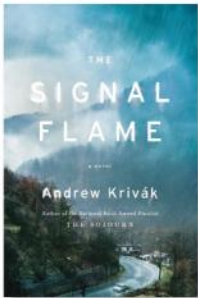
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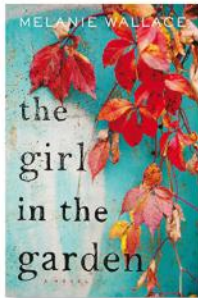
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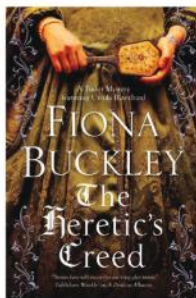
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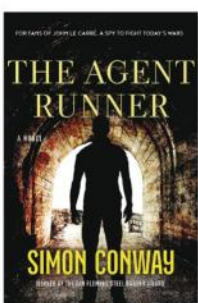
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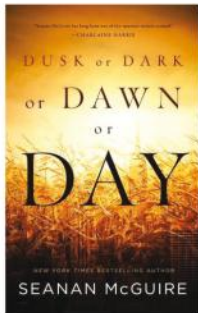
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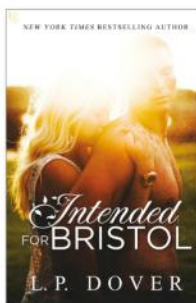
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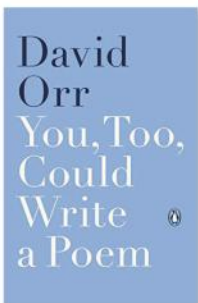
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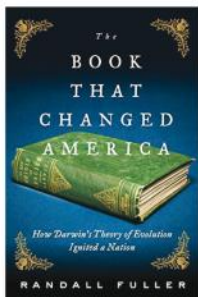
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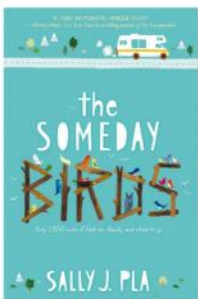
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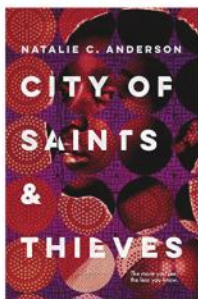
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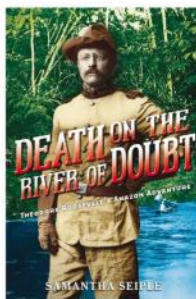
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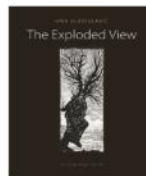
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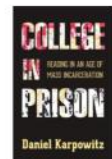
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Archive Dive: The Last Time the Cubs Won the World Series...

Oct. 10, 1908, was the first game of the last World Series the Chicago Cubs won before this one; it was also the pub date of an issue of *Publishers Weekly*, which opened with this rather sarcastic note on slovenly bookstores:

How to Get a Bookstore Talked About

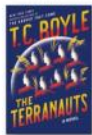
To get a bookstore talked about is an easy enough matter if one sets about it in the right way. For example, keep the store window dusty and soiled; expose in the way of window display a collection of heterogeneous odds and ends—preferably soiled stationery in broken boxes and gaudy books in faded bindings; keep the store littered up, with everything in the wrong place, and tables arranged so that customers are obliged to squeeze their way around, or stumble over, them to get into and out of the store; surround yourself with untidy and ignorant or indifferent help, and treat your customers as intruders.



From the Newsletters

PW Daily

Evangelical Christian authors weigh in on the election season, and who they are supporting.
publishersweekly.com/faith2016



Tip Sheet

T.C. Boyle, author of *The Terranauts* (Ecco), shares five writing tips.
publishersweekly.com/boyletips

Children's Bookshelf

Remembering Natalie Babbitt, of *Tuck Everlasting* fame, who died last week at age 84.
publishersweekly.com/babbitt



© SAMUEL F. BABBITT

BookLife Report

Announcing the semifinalists for the first BookLife Prize for Fiction.
publishersweekly.com/blprizesemi

Sign up for these and other great, free newsletters at publishersweekly.com/newsletters

Blogs

ShelfTalker

That time a couple of shipping mishaps nearly derailed an English author's appearance at a Vermont bookstore event.
publishersweekly.com/shipping

Podcasts

Week Ahead

PW editorial director Jim Milliot discusses the big changes afoot at BookExpo, formerly known as BookExpo America.
publishersweekly.com/weekahead

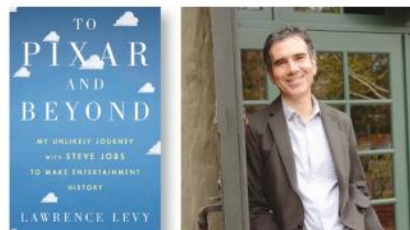
More to Come

The More to Come crew discusses what the possible merger of AT&T and Time Warner means for Warner Bros. and DC Comics, and novelist/comics writer Chelsea Cain's decision to leave Twitter after she was the target of abuse on the social platform.
publishersweekly.com/moretocome235

The most-read review on publishersweekly.com last week was *Mother to Mother* by Sindiwe Magona (Beacon)
publishersweekly.com/mothertomother



PW Radio



Lawrence Levy discusses his new book, *To Pixar and Beyond: My Unlikely Journey with Steve Jobs to Make Entertainment History* (HMH). PW contributing editor Liz Hartman previews the Miami Book Fair.
publishersweekly.com/pwradio198



The publishing industry's leading job-listing site. publishersweekly.com/jobzone

Penguin Random House Rules The Children's Book Market

PRH has a 20-point lead in market share over HarperCollins

It comes as no surprise that Penguin Random House—the country's largest trade publisher—is also the biggest children's book publisher. But the size of the gap between PRH and second-place HarperCollins might raise a few eyebrows.

According to data released by Nielsen BookScan at its October 27 Children's Book Summit, PRH had a 31% share of the children's print book market for the July 1, 2015–June 30, 2016, period, while HC had an 11% share. (BookScan measures about 85% of print book sales.) PRH's lead occurred despite a 5% drop in sales, to 72.7 million units, in the year ended June 30, compared to the prior year. Among the keys to PRH's success is its ownership of a number of bestselling franchises, including Dr. Seuss and Golden Books.

In third place in the period was Scholastic, which had a 9% share, helped by its success with Minecraft titles. Scholastic's share for the balance of the calendar year will likely rise, given the huge sales of *Harry Potter and the Cursed Child*, which has sold four million copies since its July 31 release. Simon & Schuster was in the fourth spot on the list, with the 17.6 million units it sold in the year ended June 30 giving S&S an 8% market share. Macmillan edged out Disney-Hyperion for fifth place, although each publisher had about a 5% market share. The top five children's publishers together had a 64% share of print units sold through outlets that report to BookScan in the period, but Nielsen noted that their share was down from 66% in the prior year.

A number of children's publishers ranked between 11 and 20 had strong growth over the past two years. While some, particularly Dover, saw children's sales rise because of

20 LARGEST CHILDREN'S PUBLISHERS

RANK PUBLISHER	PRINT UNITS 2014–2015*	PRINT UNITS 2015–2016**	CHANGE	MARKET SHARE 2015–2016
1 Penguin Random House	76,913,637	72,743,648	-5%	31%
2 HarperCollins	25,338,469	25,484,539	0.5%	11%
3 Scholastic	18,633,939	20,387,939	9%	9%
4 Simon & Schuster	16,476,846	17,594,783	7%	8%
5 Macmillan	10,305,228	12,645,764	22%	5%
6 Disney	11,419,783	12,616,925	10%	5%
7 Hachette Book Group	8,034,250	8,052,209	0.2%	3%
8 Houghton Mifflin Harcourt	7,158,608	6,799,994	-5%	3%
9 Abrams	5,122,962	5,273,936	3%	2%
10 Candlewick	4,298,416	4,686,870	9%	2%
11 Sterling	2,974,859	2,741,936	-8%	1%
12 Workman	2,379,783	2,525,970	6%	1%
13 Carson-Dellosa	2,046,584	2,385,449	16%	1%
14 Dover	1,762,177	2,352,886	33%	1%
15 Chronicle	1,963,941	2,319,651	18%	1%
16 Sourcebooks	1,547,101	1,895,899	22%	1%
17 School Zone	603,594	1,782,312	195%	1%
18 Tiger Tale	1,552,945	1,763,632	13%	1%
19 Phoenix International	1,123,181	1,385,447	23%	1%
20 American Girl	1,393,215	1,301,772	-7%	1%
All Others	22,483,570	25,676,716	14%	11%

*FOR JULY 1, 2014–JUNE 30, 2015
SOURCE: NIELSEN BOOKSCAN

** FOR JULY 1, 2015–JUNE 30, 2016

adult coloring books being classified as children's titles, others have seen real growth in the kids' market. Sourcebooks, for example, has invested heavily to build its children's business, and its Jabberwocky and Put Me in the Story imprints have had solid gains, making it the 16th-largest children's publisher on the BookScan list.

School Zone was the fastest-growing company among the 20 largest children's publishers in the year ended June 30. School Zone is primarily a publisher of educational materials for school children, and CEO Jonathan Hoffman said that there was no one thing that led to the big gains in the past couple of years. He noted that sales were down in the 2013–2014 year, but that investment in product development led to a number of introductions—an inspirational coloring book/workbook line, a toddler line, and some larger format bind-ups—that yielded “some hits,” he said. An agreement with Readerlink also broadened School Zone's reach into nontraditional markets.

—Jim Milliot

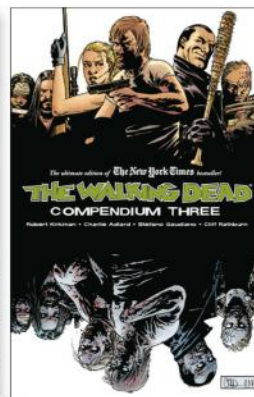
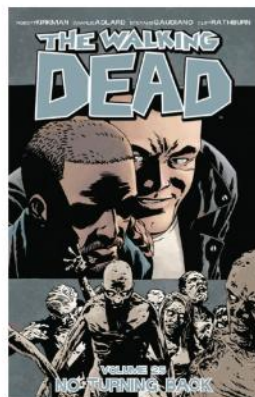
Graphic Novels

Skybound's Walking Dead Graphic Novel Sales Won't Die

Long before it was a popular TV show, Robert Kirkman's zombie saga, the *Walking Dead*, was a hit comic book series, first published by indie comics publisher Image Comics in 2003. The show's seventh season recently started on AMC; the bestselling series is now published in book collections by Skybound, an Image Comics imprint launched in 2010 under the direction of Kirkman; and sales continue to rise.

Skybound editorial director Steve Mackiewicz said that *Walking Dead* hardcover and trade paperback collections have sold more than 289,000 copies in 2016 through September, an increase of 12% over the same period in 2015. He added, “If we were to include

tie-in publications, such as coloring books, the total *Walking Dead* franchise sales would be up 18% year to date in 2016.” In a 2011 interview, Kirkman told *PW* that the *Walking Dead* graphic novel collections, of which there were 13 at the time, had first printings of 100,000 copies per volume. These days,



THE WEEKLY SCORECARD Tracking Unit Print Sales (in thousands)

Unit Sales of Print Books by Channel

	NOV. 1, 2015	OCT. 30, 2016*	CHGE WEEK	CHGE YTD
Total	11,005	11,194	2%	4%
Mass Merch./Other	1,851	1,833	-1%	-4%
Retail & Club	9,153	9,362	2%	6%

Unit sales of print books rose 2% in the week ended Oct. 30, 2016, over the similar period in 2015, at outlets that report to Nielsen BookScan. Adult fiction had a strong week—one of its few this year—with print units up 3% compared to the week ended Nov. 1, 2015. The gains were led by John Grisham's newest thriller, *The Whistler*, which sold more than 124,000 copies in its first week, making it the overall bestselling book for the week. Two books with Christmas in their titles had strong starts: *A Baxter Family Christmas* by Karen Kingsbury sold just under 18,000 copies, putting it in seventh place on the adult fiction list, while *Christmas in Alaska* by Debbie Macomber sold almost 15,000 copies, good enough for the 11th spot on the adult fiction list. Adult nonfiction unit sales rose 2% in the week and the category also had a clear winner: Ina Garten's *Cooking for Jeffrey* sold more than 112,000 copies in its first week, easily beating *The Magnolia Story* by Chip and Joanna Gaines, which sold more than 47,000 copies, landing it in second place on the adult nonfiction bestsellers list. Another new book that had a solid debut was Tim Tebow's *Shaken*, which placed fourth on the adult nonfiction list after selling more than 25,000 copies in its debut week. Juvenile fiction sales increased 1% in the week, led by J.K. Rowling's *Harry Potter and the Cursed Child*, which sold almost 27,000 copies. At #2 was *DanDTM: Trayaurs and the Enchanted Crystal* by DanTDM, a YouTube personality whose Minecraft and gaming video channel has 12 million subscribers. His book sold more than 18,000 copies in its first week.

Unit Sales of Print Books by Category

	NOV. 1, 2015	OCT. 30, 2016*	CHGE WEEK	CHGE YTD
Adult Nonfiction	4,449	4,551	2%	8%
Adult Fiction	2,349	2,428	3%	-1%
Juvenile Nonfiction	848	852	0.5%	5%
Juvenile Fiction	2,878	2,910	1%	4%

Unit Sales of Print Books by Format

	NOV. 1, 2015	OCT. 30, 2016*	CHGE WEEK	CHGE YTD
Hardcover	3,325	3,387	2%	6%
Trade Paperback	5,613	5,772	3%	6%
Mass Market Paperback	1,039	1,012	-3%	-8%
Board Books	618	622	0.6%	8%
Audio	83	65	-21%	-13%

*TOTALS FOR 2016 INCLUDE UNITS SOLD THROUGH FAMILY CHRISTIAN STORES. NO SALES THROUGH FAMILY CHRISTIAN ARE INCLUDED IN 2015.



SOURCE: NIELSEN BOOKSCAN AND PUBLISHERS WEEKLY. NIELSEN BOOKSCAN'S U.S. CONSUMER MARKET PANEL COVERS APPROXIMATELY 80% OF THE PRINT BOOK MARKET AND CONTINUES TO GROW.

Mackiewicz said, initial printings are around 300,000 copies. The most recent Walking Dead trade paperback release, *No Turning Back*, the 25th volume in the series, has sold 40% more copies during its first 13 weeks than the previous volume sold over the same period, he noted.

"Skybound was launched as an imprint to bring in new artists under a new platform," Mackiewicz said. It publishes about 22 comics series annually, including several by Kirkman. All of them, Mackiewicz noted, are gathered into trade paperback collections. Skybound's book list is distributed to the trade by Diamond Books Distributors and its titles are available digitally on Comixology and elsewhere.

After the Walking Dead, Skybound's bestselling book series are Outcast, a horror series by Kirkman and artist Paul Azaceta; *Invincible*, a superhero series by Kirkman and artist Todd Nauck; and *Manifest Destiny*, a paranormal frontier adventure by Chris Dingess and artist Matthew Robert.

The Walking Dead series also includes the Walking Dead Compendium, massive trade paperbacks priced at \$60 that each include eight trade paperback collections and sells thousands of copies annually. There are now three compendium volumes, which are collected and published every four years. Mackiewicz



said that the compendiums have been "huge for us," attracting "a stream of consumers who are... filtering into the standard trade collections to keep current on the story."

The Outcast series has also been adapted into a TV show that just completed its first season on Cinemax and Fox. Sales of *Outcast*, Vol. 1, which

was published in January 2015, are up 46% this year through September over

the same period last year. Skybound has released three trade paperback volumes of the Outcast series (with volume four coming in 2017) and is about to release a deluxe hardcover edition in November.

"We're quickly establishing an Outcast footprint on retailers' shelves," Mackiewicz said. "As we get deeper into the publication of the [Outcast] series and more volumes are introduced, we see a consistent strength [in sales growth] on our early volumes alongside the new releases. Books are where comics consumers are going, and the book market is a huge focus for us going forward."

—Calvin Reid

Market Watch

Industry Stocks: October Performances

CBS, parent company of Simon & Schuster, was the only company on the Publishers Weekly Stock Index to have an increase in its stock price in October. With the other nine companies on the PWSI seeing a decline in their share price, the PWSI fell 5.3% in the month after dropping 5.9% in September. Educational Development Corp. had the biggest decline in its share price in October, with its stock falling 17.8%. The publisher, which has had rapid sales and earnings growth in the past 18 months, had a drop in earnings in its second quarter, as it invested heavily in the period to meet the expanding demand for its books. October marked the debut of LSC Communications, one of three companies spun out of R.R. Donnelley. LSC houses the former Donnelley's printing operations, and its stock price fell 15.3% in its first month as a stand-alone company.

SOURCE: PUBLISHERS WEEKLY

Winners

Company	Sept. 30	Oct. 31	% Change
CBS	54.93	51.03	3.0%

Losers

John Wiley	51.61	51.60	-0.06%
Scholastic	39.36	38.25	-2.8%
Houghton Mifflin Harcourt	13.41	12.65	-5.6%
Amazon	837.31	789.82	-5.7%
Pearson	9.79	9.23	-5.7%
Barnes & Noble	11.30	10.30	-8.8%
News Corp	13.98	11.12	-13.3%
LSC Communications	28.61	24.24	-15.3%
Educational Dev. Corp.	11.38	9.35	-17.8%

Publishers Weekly

Stock Index	1,071.68	1,014.18	-5.3
Dow Jones Aver.	18,308.15	18,142.42	-0.9

News Briefs

Sales, Earnings Rise at S&S In Q3

Sales at Simon & Schuster rose 11%, to \$226 million, in the period ended Sept. 30, 2016, over the third quarter of 2015. Operating income increased to \$44

million from \$43 million.

Jolly Fish Acquired

North Star Editions, an independent publisher specializing in children's and young adult literature, acquired Jolly Fish Press

days after the Utah-based indie said it was going to close.

Trade Unit Bright Spot For HMH

The Houghton Mifflin Harcourt trade division was a bright spot for

the publishing company in the third quarter, which ended Sept. 30, 2016. Revenue in the division rose 5.9%, to \$45.8 million, over the third quarter of 2015, and adjusted EBITDA jumped to \$6.5

million from \$3.1 million. Revenue in the education division fell 7% in the quarter, to \$533 million, and adjusted EBITDA fell 12%, to \$168 million, resulting in an overall decline for the company.

Deals

BY RACHEL DEAHL

■ 'Wicked' Author Sells New Novel

Gregory Maguire, author of the best-seller-turned-Broadway-hit *Wicked*, sold North American rights to a novel called *Hiddensee* to William Morrow. Cassie Jones bought the book, set for a fall 2017 release, from Moses Cardona at John Hawkins & Associates. The publisher said that *Hiddensee*, which is set in early-19th-century Germany, "twins an origin legend of the famous Nutcracker with the life of Drosselmeier, the toy maker who carves him."

© ANDY NEWMAN



■ 'Esquire' Ed Goes on Record for Ecco

The first female fiction editor at *Esquire*, Adrienne Miller, sold a memoir to Ecco titled *What a Pretty Thing a Fire Is*. Denise Oswald preempted world rights to the book from Joe Veltre at the Gersh Agency. The title, Ecco said, explores the author's "coming of age in the literary world." Miller, who worked at the magazine from the late 1990s through the mid-2000s, developed a relationship with frequent contributor David Foster Wallace, and the book delves into that as well.

■ Da Capo Takes Matisyahu's 'Crown'

In a North American rights deal, Ben Schafer at Da Capo Press acquired Matisyahu's memoir, *King Without a Crown*. The book, being written with Paul Zollo, will chronicle the reggae singer and rapper's path from a childhood in suburban Westchester County to his rise as a successful musician.

© CHRISTOPHER TOWNSEND



(The title of the book refers to one of the artist's most successful singles.) The work will also, Da Capo said, detail how Matisyahu "broke with Orthodox Judaism and finally found his spiritual and musical soul on a retreat in the backwoods of Oregon." *King Without a Crown*, which is slated for fall 2017, was sold by Anthony Mattero at Foundry Literary + Media.

■ Barnett Sells New Series to Viking

Viking's Ken Wright and Joanna Cardenas took world rights to an early reader series called Hi, Jack! written by Mac Barnett (the Terrible Two series) and illustrated by Greg Pizzoli (*The Watermelon Seed*). The agreement covers eight books and was brokered by Steven Malk at Writers House. The publisher plans to launch the series, which it said is about a "mischievous" monkey who "takes pleasure in bending the rules," in spring 2018 with two titles. Viking added that the books will be written in "snappy, rhythmic text."

© SONYA SONES



Barnett

■ Fine Lets Her Light Shine at Amazon

For Amazon's Skyscape imprint, Courtney Miller preempted world English rights to Sarah Fine's novel *Beneath the Shine*. The two-book deal was brokered by Kathleen Ortiz at New Leaf Literary & Media, who described the YA sci-fi work as "*House of Cards* meets *Gattaca*." The novel follows a 17-year-old girl who, Ortiz said, unwittingly becomes the face of a political movement after a video she makes "calling for action against the 1%" goes viral. The video helps usher in "a new movement" following an election in 2068 but a terrorist attack then forces the her-

oine to "uncover the truth before she and those closest to her become the next victims." The book is slated for April 2017.

■ Briefs

Tim Bono, a psychology professor at Washington University in St. Louis, sold *The Course of Happiness* to Brittany Hamblin McInerney at Grand Central. McInerney preempted world rights (excluding the U.K. and British Columbia) to the book from Melissa Edwards at Stonesong. Describing the work, which is set for spring 2018, Edwards said that it is "a research-based guide for increasing happiness in over-stressed young adults."

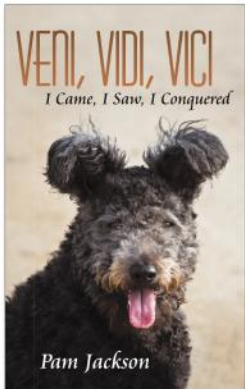
Sourcebooks' Anna Michels took world English rights to Denise Swanson's *Dead in the Water*, the first book in a new cozy mystery series called Welcome Back to Scumble River. The new series is spun off from Swanson's bestselling Scumble River line. Also included in the agreement, which Laura Blake Peterson at Curtis Brown brokered, is a second book in Welcome Back to Scumble River, as well as three currently untitled books in a new cozy series called Chef-to-Go.

Helen Klein Ross signed a world rights deal with her current publisher, Gallery Books. (Gallery released the author's novel *What Was Mine* in April.) The new book, currently untitled, will, the publisher said, follow the resident of a country house in New England who "discovers and investigates a crime that took place at the property generations before, which involves his working-class Irish ancestress." Kate Johnson at Wolf Literary Services brokered the agreement with Gallery editor Natasha Simons, and the new book is slated for 2018.



Ross

AN ENTIRE WORLD IN THE PALM OF YOUR HAND

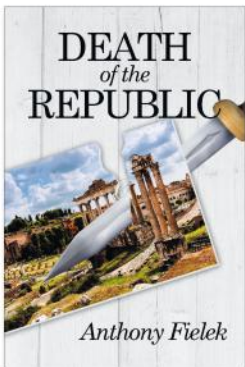


VENI, VIDI, VICI

I Came, I Saw, I Conquered

Pam Jackson
www.iuniverse.com
978-1-4917-5605-8
Paperback | \$15.95
978-1-4917-5607-2
E-book | \$3.99

A Pumi puppy from Hungary named Veni gets adopted by a professional dog trainer in California. Veni is being trained by her new master and must always be on her best behavior, which is not easy for a pup who loves trouble so much. *Veni, Vidi, Vici* is a hilarious, tail-wagging good time for dog lovers.



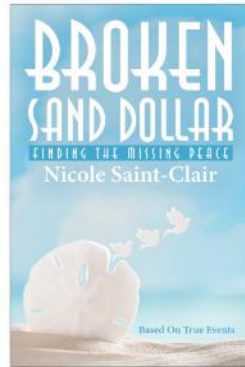
DEATH OF THE REPUBLIC

Anthony Fielek
www.xlibris.com
978-1-5144-2339-4
Hardback | \$29.99
978-1-5144-2338-7
Paperback | \$19.99
978-1-5144-2337-0
E-book | \$3.99

A spellbinding historical novel about a Plebeian boy seeking justice for his family trying to unravel the fog of Avarice, Double Dealing, Deceit, Corruption and Bloodshed as the old Republic dissolves.

Excerpt from the book reads:

"Marcus was warned by his father not to wander off and stay at the house. He reentered into the kitchen to see what was cooking and to talk to Verina. He told her about Father's request and the fact that he was probably going to feel the Vine staff again. He was hoping that she would be around to stand up for him..."

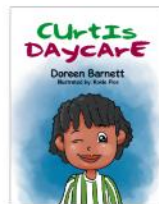


BROKEN SAND DOLLAR

Finding the Missing Peace

Nicole Saint-Clair
www.iuniverse.com
978-1-4917-8233-0
Paperback | \$19.95
978-1-4917-8234-7
E-book | \$3.99

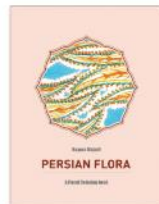
This is a journey through the aftermath of a spring break trip gone horribly wrong. A life-threatening sexual assault experience becomes a decades-long nightmare. Thirty years later, vivid memories unravel as past and present merge. Elizabeth is still colliding with four well-connected Ivy Leaguers in positions of power and influence, who still seem bent on destroying her.



CURTIS DAYCARE

Doreen Barnett
www.xlibris.com
978-1-5144-8066-3 Paperback | \$15.99
978-1-5144-8044-1 E-book | \$3.99

This book is to ease a child's mind about venturing somewhere outside their box. By showing and reading this book, he/she will not feel so confused or traumatized. *Curtis Daycare* is putting it in a child's perspective. A must-read!



PERSIAN FLORA

An Adult Coloring Book

Nayera Majedi
www.iuniverse.com
978-1-4917-9714-3 Paperback | \$14.99
978-1-4917-9713-6 E-book | \$9.99

Filled with elements of beautiful nature and greenery found in nature's verdant landscape, this art book—*Persian Flora*—offers a collection of line-drawn images from artist Nayera Majedi that are suitable for adult coloring techniques.



SURFACE PARADISE

Allan Green

www.iuniverse.com

978-1-4917-6243-1 Hardback | \$23.95

978-1-4917-6242-4 Paperback | \$13.95

978-1-4917-6241-7 E-book | \$3.99

A young man, the overindulged child of privilege, struggles with impossible romantic standards. When the woman he loves dies, he marries another. Can he ever truly love his new wife, or will he be forever condemned by a broken heart?



MY 26 BEST FRIENDS

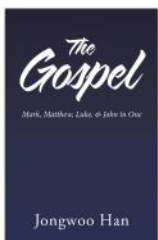
Phil Scott

www.authorhouse.com

978-1-5246-0974-0 Paperback | \$20.99

978-1-5246-0975-7 E-book | \$3.99

This book reveals 26 best friends that anyone can have. Without them, you will not be able to create words, form sentences and share ideas. Discover why they are the greatest gift to the world and let your imagination grow!



THE GOSPEL

Mark, Matthew, Luke, & John in One

Jongwoo Han

www.westbowpress.com

978-1-5127-4390-6 Hardback | \$33.95

978-1-5127-4389-0 Paperback | \$17.95

978-1-5127-4388-3 E-book | \$4.99

In need of a clear, chronological telling of the story of Jesus, *The Gospel* unifies the four Gospels in a single story without omitting or compromising any part. By identifying the common denominators, the book interweaves the Gospels into a single, harmonized narrative.



THE SELF-CREATING UNIVERSE

The Making of a Worldview

J.J. Clarke

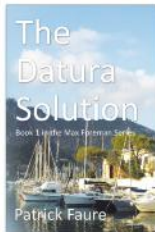
www.xlibrispublishing.co.uk

978-1-4836-8392-8 Hardback | \$43.18

978-1-4836-8391-1 Paperback | \$27.18

978-1-4836-8393-5 E-book | \$5.99

Bringing science and spirituality together in a novel way, this philosophical synthesis opens up exciting new developments in the natural sciences while contributing to a worldview which addresses fundamental philosophical and social questions. "Smart, informed and genuinely thought-provoking" (Foreword Reviews).



THE DATURA SOLUTION

Book 1 in the Max Foreman Series

Patrick Faure

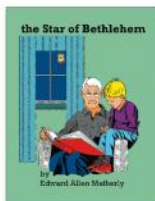
www.xlibrispublishing.co.uk

978-1-5144-9391-5 Hardback | \$39.92

978-1-5144-9390-8 Paperback | \$23.28

978-1-5144-9389-2 E-book | \$4.99

The Datura Solution is a tale of love, tragedy, brutality, and greed that builds into a fight for survival not only for Max but for all his associates in the unforgiving world of Russian oligarchs.



THE STAR OF BETHLEHEM

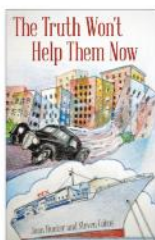
Edward Allen Matherly

www.xlibris.com

978-1-5245-1130-2 Paperback | \$21.99

978-1-5245-1129-6 E-book | \$3.99

The wonder of God's creations, especially the bright and twinkling stars at night, are all appreciated and highlighted by this vividly illustrated story about *The Star of Bethlehem*. Discover more about these interesting heavenly bodies.



THE TRUTH WON'T HELP THEM NOW

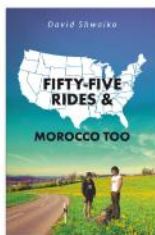
Joan Hunter and Steven Cobos

www.iuniverse.com

978-1-4917-8958-2 Paperback | \$22.95

978-1-4917-8959-9 E-book | \$3.99

The Truth Won't Help Them Now is a fast-paced tale of murder and gangland intrigue, involving a gritty district attorney and a band of detectives on a quest to solve two separate crimes in a corrupted 1939 Los Angeles.



FIFTY-FIVE RIDES AND MOROCCO TOO

David Shwaiko

www.xlibris.com

978-1-5144-9194-2 Hardback | \$29.99

978-1-5144-9193-5 Paperback | \$19.99

978-1-5144-9192-8 E-book | \$3.99

Avid, thrill-seeking hitchhiker and author David Shwaiko shares his adventures on and off the road in *Fifty-Five Rides and Morocco Too!* Witness his enchanting escapades, tour many places, and learn travelling tales through this retelling! Fun and fascinating, a must-read!

Retail

An Energetic Season of Regional Shows Wraps Up

The word most frequently used to describe this year's fall regional bookseller trade shows is *energetic*. The regionals took place over a six-week period, beginning with the Southern Independent Booksellers Alliance's Discovery Show in Savannah, Ga., in mid-September and continuing through October with the Northern California Independent Booksellers Association's gathering in San Francisco late last month.

All eight shows benefitted from the continued growth of the indie bookstore channel, which brought in more new bookstore owners and younger frontline booksellers to the meetings. NCIBA and the Pacific Northwest Booksellers Association got an additional boost from new leadership: NCIBA executive director Calvin Crosby and PNBA's Brian Juenemann led their first shows.

Even with new blood at the associations and sales gains at the stores, attendance rose only slightly at some shows and dipped at others. The Heartland Fall Forum in Minneapolis, a joint venture of the Great Lakes and the Midwest Independent Booksellers Associations for the fifth year in a row, was the only show to experience a double-digit dip in attendance, likely caused by the fact that Winter Institute will be held in the Twin Cities in January.

One of the main draws for booksellers at the shows continues to be the opportunity to meet a wide range of authors, including big names such as Zadie Smith, who gave the keynote speech at the New England Independent Booksellers Association, and Martin Cruz Smith, in conversation with his daughter, bookseller Luisa Smith, at NCIBA. This year no single book emerged as the big book of the holiday season. But one new children's book author and illustrator was a clear bookseller favorite: Brendan Wenzel, for his debut picture book, *They All Saw*

a Cat (Chronicle).

Like BookExpo, which has been in transition for the past few years, the fall regionals could be changing. Just before its show, SIBA announced that it will move its annual gathering to the spring in 2018 and will begin holding the show in Atlanta. SIBA had originally planned to partner with the Great American Bargain Book Show. Following GABBS's surprise announcement last month that it will close, SIBA set aside its annual spring day of education for booksellers to discuss whether to keep the trade show in the fall, move it to the spring, or possibly rotate it between the two seasons.

The subject of a different timing for the shows has yet to be broached among the other regional associations. The fall

trade show tradition has been a part of the bookselling landscape for the past four decades. —Judith Rosen



PHOTO BY JUDITH ROSEN

Gillian Kohli (l.), president of NEIBA and co-owner of Wellesley Books in Wellesley, Mass., talks with this year's recipient of the NEIBA president's award, Elizabeth Strout (My Name Is Lucy Barton).



PHOTO BY MEREDITH MAKAN

Penguin Children's rep Nicole White (l.) with author Sabaa Tahir (*A Torch Against the Night*) at SCIBA's children's breakfast.



PHOTO BY EDWARD NAWOTKA

Three Colorado book-buying legends were at MPIBA (l. to r.): Cathy Langer and Margaret Maupin, retired, of Denver's Tattered Cover, with Arsen Kashkashian of Boulder's Boulder Book Store.



PHOTO BY JUDITH ROSEN

Booksellers chat at the NAIBA preview supper (l. to r.): Denise Berthiaume, co-owner of Books & Books in Westhampton Beach, N.Y.; Ezra Goldstein, co-owner of Community Bookstore in Brooklyn, N.Y.; former bookseller and author Hannah Tinti; and Robert Sindelar, managing partner of Third Place Books in Lake Forest Park, Wash.



PHOTO BY ANISSE GROSS

Ginee Seo, children's publishing director at Chronicle Books, with author/illustrator Brendan Wenzel (*The All Saw a Cat*) at NCIBA.

You're Invited!



Children's Starred Reviews

Celebration!

An Evening to Honor Authors & Illustrators



When: December 7, 2016

Where: New York City

Publishers Weekly invites you to take part in the end-of-the-year celebration cocktail party honoring the children's book authors and illustrators who received a *PW* starred review in 2016.

Join fellow publishing professionals, authors, illustrators, editors, agents and everyone who contributed to the achievement of this distinguished honor

TICKETS AVAILABLE:

PublishersWeekly.com/KidsStars

Slow Down

PW Talks with Thomas L. Friedman

In his new book, *Thank You for Being Late: An Optimist's Guide to Thriving in the Age of Accelerations* (Farrar, Straus and Giroux, Nov.), bestselling author and renowned columnist Thomas L. Friedman argues that the world today is moving faster than ever before and will only get faster. All the more reason, he argues, to slow down, reflect, and maybe read a good book. We recently caught up with Friedman to talk about the dizzying pace of change we now live with, and why he's hopeful we will find a way to cope.

Let's start with the title. Why are you thanking people for being late?

Yeah, the title—so, as I explain in the introduction, I often meet people in Washington, D.C., for breakfast and occasionally people would come 15, 20 minutes late and they'd say, "Tom, I'm really sorry. It's the weather, the traffic, the subway, the dog ate my homework." And I couldn't remember whom I said this to first, but one morning I spontaneously said to one of them, "Well, actually thank you for being late. Because you were late, I've been eavesdropping on this conversation—it's fascinating; I've been people watching in the lobby. And I just connected to ideas that I've been struggling with for months." And people actually got into it and they started to say, "Well, you're welcome!" But they also understood what I was saying, that I was giving both of us permission to slow down, to stop and to think. And in this time of acceleration, I just think that's more important than ever.

In the book, you point to 2007 as a watershed year, when the pace of change began speeding up to disorienting levels. Explain why 2007 is such a notable year in human history?

Well, the big, headline-grabbing thing that happened, of course, was the iPhone, which launched the whole smartphone revolution. But another really big thing that happened was [distributed-computing framework] Hadoop, which really for the first time created the possibility of big data for the masses. That was the technology that allowed us to string together literally millions of computers, so you could store so much more



© RALPH AHSWANG

stuff, and search so much more stuff. That's why Facebook happened, Twitter, Android, Kindle, Airbnb, IBM's Watson. None of those things could have happened without that foundation of mobility. And third, there was the cloud. The cloud was made possible in many ways by innovations by Google and Hadoop. So, those three things together—mobility (I can now have a computer in my hand); broadband (I can connect with this thing called the cloud anywhere); and then, of course, the cloud itself, which can store infinite files, infinite intelligence, and infinite software apps—that all really started to come together in or around 2007.

You refer to the cloud as "the supernova," and you put it up there with fire and electricity as

one of the things that will fundamentally change human history. Why?

The term supernova came from my friend Craig Mundie, who was head of research and strategy at Microsoft for many years. He chose the term because a supernova is the largest explosion in nature; he was just trying to express the extraordinary power of the convergence of mobile, broadband, and the cloud. And Craig, I think, says it very well—fire and electricity were enormous, but they don't have this kind of intelligence that the cloud has. And we've only begun to scratch the surface. I think we'll look back and realize that 2007 was truly a Gutenberg-scale moment in history. You know, I always tell people that after Gutenberg invented the printing press, some monk said to some priest, "You know, this is really cool. I'm not going to have to write all this stuff out longhand anymore!" I think you and I are alive at a similar moment.

You write about Moore's law, and how it used to take 20 or 30 years for technology to make a big leap forward. Now it happens about every five to seven years. Can people, cultures, and institutions adapt to such a rapid pace of change?

Well, that's one of the central questions of the book. And I can't answer, because we're literally in the middle of it right now. But one of the reasons the book is called *Thank You for Being Late* is

because I wanted to give people permission to slow down, to feel you don't have to keep chasing this. You know, I talk the talk of globalization, but I'm actually a pretty disconnected person. I'm not on Twitter. I don't have a big Facebook presence. And that's nothing against them, it's just because I really need my solitude to think. One of my favorite quotes in the book is from [author and columnist] Dov Seidman, who says that when you press pause on a computer, it stops. But when you press pause on a human being, he or she starts. Dov also coined the phrase "pausing in stride." And I like that, because you don't want to just stop and curl up in a ball under your bed, but people do need time to stop, think, and reflect.

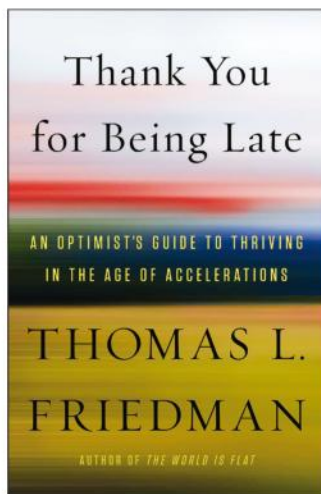
You have a great discussion in the book about artificial intelligence. You write that a chess grandmaster was asked "what do you bring to a chess match with a computer?" The answer was "a hammer." With computers now starting to write news articles—and maybe, someday, books—are writers and publishers going to need hammers?

That's a very good question. But at the end of the day, I don't think so. Machines can do a lot of things, and, yes, they can come up with a sonnet, or a poem, a sports story, and maybe, you know, one day, maybe even some kind of opinion. But people have bodies and souls. And there's the ability to read those, you know? To read and interpret the raise of an eyebrow, or the curl of a lip, or the wink of an eye, the fall of a grin. I still think that writing like that is going to be something uniquely human.

You write that the task before us is to turn AI into IA: intelligence assistance. Explain that?

That really gets to that adaptation point—which is, how can we really make AI work for us? How can we make all this technology work for us? I was very heartened by some of the examples I came across in writing this book, but there's one thing I really took away from writing this book, which I think people can't run away from: and that is, that you have to be a lifelong learner. There's just no question. There's going to be fewer safety nets in the future, and you're going to have to bounce the trampolines.

On that score, you feature the philosophy of AT&T executive John Donovan in the book as an example of the fact that, despite all the disruptions, you can be a lifelong employee if you are ready to be a lifelong learner—that employees must learn new skills



or risk being left behind. And you suggest this is angling toward something of a new social contract for the digital age, correct?

Yes, exactly. More than one in fact—one is the social contract between you and your boss, and I think it has to be the AT&T one: we will actually give you the courses, and we'll even pay the tuition in some cases for your lifelong learning, but you will have to do it on your own time. And then there's the contract between you and yourself, which is, if I want to advance, I'm going to have to do things on my own, after I'm out of school. And then, there's got to be the contract between you and your govern-

ment, which is to create both the financial incentives and the possibilities for people to become lifelong learners.

You quote a Tom Goodwin TechCrunch piece in which he notes that Uber, the world's largest taxi service, has no vehicles; Facebook, the world's most popular media company, owns no content; Alibaba, the most valuable retailer, has no inventory; and Airbnb, the largest accommodation provider, owns no real estate. Extrapolating that out, how do you see the book business?

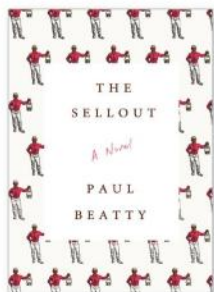
I personally think that there's going to be a backlash against all this acceleration. And I still think curling up and reading a good book, whether it's on a Kindle or on paper, that there's something deeply human about that. Now, I don't know how these books will be delivered in the future, but being totally absorbed in reading a good book, I still am a big believer in that.

Speaking of how books are going to be delivered, what are your thoughts on Amazon or other accelerations that are changing the book business?

Well, cards on the table, Jeff Bezos is a very dear friend. But I've always felt that when it comes to technology—and I have this line in *The World Is Flat*—whatever can be done, will be done. The only question is will it be done by you, or to you. So when distributing books in this wholly new digital way could be done, it was going to be done. Now, I don't know what is going to happen in the future. All I know is that for me, personally, I still love going into an independent bookstore and sitting there and sipping coffee, and just the serendipity of surfing through the shelves, seeing what's there, picking up a book. The independent bookseller to me is one of the great institutions of my life. And there's something about that experience that I think is wired into our DNA. Because of that, I think someone will always make a business out of it.

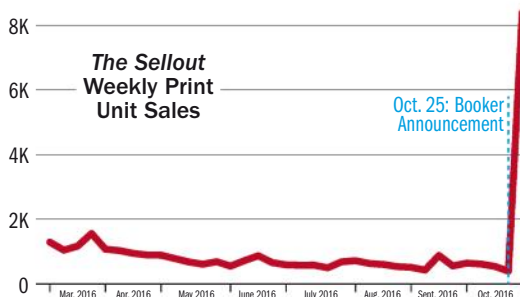
—Andrew Albanese

By CAROLYN JURIS



Sellout Sales

In the wake of his October 25 Booker Prize win for *The Sellout*, Paul Beatty is enjoying a nice sales boost. The trade paperback edition, which pubbed in March, debuts at #8 on that list with its best weekly sales yet—a quarter of all print copies since release were sold this week. Here's a look at its progress.



Coloring Corner

Adult coloring books have become less prominent on our lists recently, but don't count them out just yet. This week, best-seller Johanna Basford is back with *Johanna's Christmas*, which debuts at #2 in Trade Paperback. Her March release, *Magical Jungle*, has been on our list since its publication; it's at #18 this week.

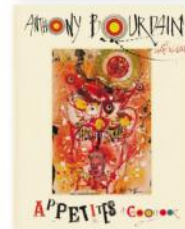


A new name in the coloring book world, Claire Belton, debuts at #11 in trade paper with *Pusheen Coloring Book*, based on the popular (9.4 million Facebook likes) kitty character. Belton's 2013 collection of Pusheen comics, *I Am Pusheen the Cat*, has sold 56.5K print copies.



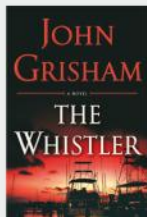
Cookbook Collection

At #1 in Hardcover Nonfiction, and #2 in the country overall, *Cooking for Jeffrey* is Ina Garten's culinary love letter to her husband. He's a familiar figure to fans of *Barefoot Contessa*, Garten's long-running TV program that showcases multicourse meals for family and friends. Her hospitality is such a given that even noted trash-talker Anthony Bourdain can't help but acknowledge it: in his first cookbook in a dozen years, *Appetites* (#5 in nonfiction, #9 overall), the chef had kind words for the *Contessa*, writing of his "Ina Garten—like need to feed the people around me."



It's a big week for new cookbook releases, with three more titles hitting our hardcover list: #9, *100 Days of Real Food: Fast & Fabulous* by blogger Lisa Leake; #17, *The Sprinkles Baking Book* by TV personality and cupcake-shop owner Candace Nelson; and #24, *Dorie's Cookies* by James Beard Award-winner Dorie Greenspan, which we recently named one of 2016's best books. Plus, on our Trade Paperback list at #24, *Well Fed Weeknights* is blogger Melissa Joulwan's newest paleo cookbook.

NEW & NOTABLE



THE WHISTLER

John Grisham
#1 Hardcover Fiction, #1 overall

Lawyer Lacy Stolz investigates complaints against Florida judges, leading to a "high-stakes game of gambling, greed, and murder," our review said, in this "tense legal thriller."



SHAKEN

Tim Tebow
#4 Hardcover Nonfiction, #8 overall

The NFL quarterback-turned-minor-league outfielder, famous for kneeling in prayer on field, follows up his 2011 memoir, *Through My Eyes* (308K hardcover copies sold), with lessons from Scripture and inspirational stories, including his own, of triumph over adversity.



DANTDM: TRAYAURUS AND THE ENCHANTED CRYSTAL

DanTDM
#2 Children's Frontlist Fiction

12.9 million YouTube subscribers watch professional gamer Dan Middleton, aka DanTDM, play

Minecraft. This graphic novel is inspired by the worlds and characters that he has created.

TOP 10 OVERALL

RANK	TITLE	AUTHOR	IMPRINT	THIS WEEK UNITS
1	The Whistler	John Grisham	Doubleday	124,580
2	Cooking for Jeffrey	Ina Garten	Clarkson Potter	112,131
3	The Magnolia Story	Gaines/Gaines	W	47,782
4	Killing the Rising Sun	O'Reilly/Dugard	Holt	40,588
5	Two by Two	Nicholas Sparks	Grand Central	28,788
6	Harry Potter and the Cursed Child	J.K. Rowling et al.	Scholastic/Levine	26,987
7	The Girl on the Train	Paula Hawkins	Riverhead	26,585
8	Shaken	Tim Tebow	WaterBrook	25,369
9	Appetites	Anthony Bourdain	Ecco	21,973
10	The Girl on the Train (mass market movie tie-in)	Paula Hawkins	Riverhead	19,879



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BESTSELLERS OCTOBER 24–30, 2016

RANK	LW	WKS	TITLE	AUTHOR	IMPRINT	ISBN	PUB DATE	PRICE	UNITS	YTD
1	-	1	The Whistler	John Grisham	Doubleday	9780385541190	Oct 2016	\$ 28.95	124,580	125,611
2	1	5	Two by Two	Nicholas Sparks	Grand Central	9781455520695	Oct 2016	\$ 27.00	28,788	178,909
3	3	3	Small Great Things	Jodi Picoult	Ballantine	9780345544957	Oct 2016	\$ 28.99	19,224	81,710
4	-	1	A Baxter Family Christmas	Karen Kingsbury	Howard	9781451687569	Oct 2016	\$ 19.99	17,975	18,170
5	2	2	Escape Clause	John Sandford	Putnam	9780399168918	Oct 2016	\$ 29.00	15,866	46,299
6	4	3	Order to Kill	Flynn/Mills	Atria	9781476783482	Oct 2016	\$ 28.99	15,453	68,307
7	-	1	Sex, Lies & Serious Money	Stuart Woods	Putnam	9780399573941	Oct 2016	\$ 28.00	10,371	10,491
8	-	1	The Blood Mirror	Brent Weeks	Orbit	9780316251334	Oct 2016	\$ 28.00	8,009	8,494
9	5	2	The Obsidian Chamber	Preston/Child	Grand Central	9781455536917	Oct 2016	\$ 28.00	6,693	22,084
10	6	7	Commonwealth	Ann Patchett	Harper	9780062491794	Sep 2016	\$ 27.99	6,553	92,599
11	7	6	Home	Harlan Coben	Dutton	9780525955108	Sep 2016	\$ 28.00	6,170	91,871
12	10	15	The Woman in Cabin 10	Ruth Ware	Scout	9781501132933	Jul 2016	\$ 26.00	6,069	135,561
13	9	4	Twelve Days of Christmas	Debbie Macomber	Ballantine	9780553391732	Oct 2016	\$ 20.00	6,002	34,111
14	8	5	Woman of God	Patterson/Paetro	Little, Brown	9780316274029	Sep 2016	\$ 28.00	5,569	62,117
15	-	1	Hero	R.A. Salvatore	Wizards of the Coast	9780786965960	Oct 2016	\$ 27.95	5,336	5,410
16	11	9	The Book of Mysteries	Jonathan Cahn	Frontline	9781629989419	Sep 2016	\$ 21.99	5,209	71,055
17	12	4	Today Will Be Different	Maria Semple	Little, Brown	9780316403436	Oct 2016	\$ 27.00	4,481	27,801
18	-	1	A Lowcountry Christmas	Mary Alice Monroe	Gallery	9781501125539	Oct 2016	\$ 19.99	4,249	4,466
19	21	4	Winter Storms	Elin Hilderbrand	Little, Brown	9780316261173	Oct 2016	\$ 26.00	3,994	21,479
20	14	13	The Underground Railroad	Colson Whitehead	Doubleday	9780385542364	Aug 2016	\$ 26.95	3,888	160,309
21	13	4	The Trespasser	Tana French	Viking	9780670026333	Oct 2016	\$ 27.00	3,723	27,105
22	16	2	The Christmas Town	Donna VanLiere	St. Martin's	9781250010674	Oct 2016	\$ 16.99	3,621	8,031
23	15	2	Paris for One and Other Stories	Jojo Moyes	Viking/Dorman	9780735221079	Oct 2016	\$ 25.00	3,612	8,381
24	-	1	High Heat	Richard Castle	Kingswell	9781484781500	Oct 2016	\$ 26.99	3,545	4,145
25	32	3	The Mothers	Brit Bennett	Riverhead	9780399184512	Oct 2016	\$ 26.00	3,501	8,860

TOP 25 HARDCOVER FICTION

RANK	LW	WKS	TITLE	AUTHOR	IMPRINT	ISBN	PUB DATE	PRICE	UNITS	YTD
1	-	1	Cooking for Jeffrey	Ina Garten	Clarkson Potter	9780307464897	Oct 2016	\$ 35.00	112,131	112,681
2	1	2	The Magnolia Story	Gaines/Gaines	W	9780718079185	Oct 2016	\$ 26.99	47,782	170,617
3	2	7	Killing the Rising Sun	O'Reilly/Dugard	Holt	9781627790628	Sep 2016	\$ 30.00	40,588	525,735
4	-	1	Shaken	Tim Tebow	WaterBrook	9780735289864	Oct 2016	\$ 25.00	25,369	25,588
5	-	1	Appetites	Anthony Bourdain	Ecco	9780062409959	Oct 2016	\$ 37.50	21,973	22,639
6	4	6	Jesus Always	Sarah Young	Thomas Nelson	9780718039509	Oct 2016	\$ 15.99	18,143	113,697
7	3	5	Born to Run	Bruce Springsteen	Simon & Schuster	9781501141515	Sep 2016	\$ 32.50	16,841	236,998
8	-	1	The Broken Way	Ann Voskamp	Zondervan	9780310318583	Oct 2016	\$ 22.99	15,310	15,433
9	-	1	100 Days of Real Food: Fast & Fabulous	Lisa Leake	Morrow	9780062433039	Oct 2016	\$ 29.99	12,407	12,417
10	5	3	Filthy Rich	Patterson/Connolly	Little, Brown	9780316274050	Oct 2016	\$ 28.00	9,313	34,601
11	6	3	Skinnytaste Fast and Slow	Gina Homolka	Clarkson Potter	9780553459609	Oct 2016	\$ 30.00	9,207	59,070
12	8	14	Hillbilly Elegy	J.D. Vance	Harper	9780062300546	Jun 2016	\$ 27.99	8,784	159,824
13	-	1	Not Dead Yet	Phil Collins	Crown Archetype	9781101907474	Oct 2016	\$ 28.00	7,666	7,709
14	17	9	Guinness World Records 2017	-	Guinness World Records	9781910561331	Aug 2016	\$ 28.95	7,005	46,530
15	12	4	Think Better, Live Better	Joel Osteen	FaithWords	9780892969678	Oct 2016	\$ 24.00	6,811	37,674
16	-	1	Let Me Tell You About Jasper	Dana Perino	Twelve	9781455567102	Oct 2016	\$ 27.00	6,796	7,039
17	-	1	The Sprinkles Baking Book	Candace Nelson	Grand Central Life & Style	9781455592579	Oct 2016	\$ 26.00	6,779	6,826
18	24	29	Hamilton: The Revolution	Miranda/McCarter	Grand Central	9781455539741	Apr 2016	\$ 45.00	5,980	268,105
19	-	1	Carry This Book	Abbi Jacobson	Viking	9780735221598	Oct 2016	\$ 25.00	5,629	5,655
20	-	1	A Lowcountry Heart	Pat Conroy	Doubleday/Talese	9780385530866	Oct 2016	\$ 25.00	5,375	5,714
21	22	6	Atlas Obscura	Foer/Thuras/Morton	Workman	9780761169086	Sep 2016	\$ 35.00	5,087	37,053
22	21	3	A Life Well Played	Arnold Palmer	St. Martin's	9781250085948	Oct 2016	\$ 22.99	5,049	14,814
23	13	3	Upstream	Mary Oliver	Penguin Press	9781594206702	Oct 2016	\$ 26.00	4,883	16,018
24	-	1	Dorie's Cookies	Dorie Greenspan	HMH/Martin	9780547614847	Oct 2016	\$ 35.00	4,753	4,788
25	-	1	Hidden Christmas	Timothy Keller	Viking	9780735221659	Oct 2016	\$ 20.00	4,588	4,604

TOP 25 HARDCOVER NONFICTION

RANK	LW	WKS	TITLE	AUTHOR	IMPRINT	ISBN	PUB DATE	PRICE	UNITS	YTD
1	1	10	The Girl on the Train (movie tie-in)	Paula Hawkins	Riverhead	9780735212169	Aug 2016	\$ 9.99	19,879	274,393
2	-	1	Christmas in Alaska	Debbie Macomber	Mira	9780778319139	Oct 2016	\$ 7.99	14,879	15,548
3	2	2	Find Her	Lisa Gardner	Dutton	9780451477163	Oct 2016	\$ 9.99	12,607	24,773
4	4	6	Inferno (movie tie-in)	Dan Brown	Anchor	9781101972977	Sep 2016	\$ 9.99	10,396	68,414
5	-	1	Unspeakable	Sandra Brown	Grand Central	9781455593934	Oct 2016	\$ 7.99	10,234	10,606
6	6	2	The Bazaar of Bad Dreams	Stephen King	Pocket	9781501127878	Oct 2016	\$ 9.99	10,221	19,989
7	-	1	The Crossing	Michael Connelly	Vision	9781455524150	Oct 2016	\$ 9.99	10,029	10,398
8	3	6	Blue	Danielle Steel	Dell	9780425285404	Sep 2016	\$ 8.99	9,199	96,543
9	5	5	Cross Justice	James Patterson	Vision	9781455585137	Sep 2016	\$ 9.99	9,011	59,081
10	-	1	The Pharaoh's Secret	Cussler/Brown	Putnam	9780735215252	Oct 2016	\$ 9.99	8,847	9,195
11	7	14	Rogue Lawyer	John Grisham	Dell	9780553393484	Jul 2016	\$ 9.99	8,380	225,921
12	-	1	A Stranger in Town	William W. Johnstone	Pinnacle	9780786039319	Oct 2016	\$ 7.99	7,990	8,224
13	-	1	A Colorado Christmas	William W. Johnstone	Pinnacle	9780786035915	Oct 2016	\$ 7.99	7,604	7,847
14	-	1	A Wedding for Christmas	Lori Wilde	Avon	9780062311450	Oct 2016	\$ 7.99	6,736	6,983
15	-	1	The Most Wonderful Time	Fern Michaels et al.	Zebra	9781420135701	Oct 2016	\$ 7.99	6,409	6,617
16	8	3	Dashing Through the Snow	Debbie Macomber	Ballantine	9780553391718	Oct 2016	\$ 7.99	6,283	18,628
17	-	1	My Kind of Christmas	Robyn Carr	Mira	9780778319207	Oct 2016	\$ 7.99	6,131	6,327
18	-	1	A Love Beyond Words	Sherryl Woods	Harlequin	9780373010370	Oct 2016	\$ 6.99	6,043	6,264
19	11	8	Never Go Back (movie tie-in)	Lee Child	Dell	9780399594977	Sep 2016	\$ 9.99	5,887	64,375
20	12	5	Because It's Christmas	Macomber/Roberts	Mira	9780778319177	Sep 2016	\$ 7.99	5,695	39,584
21	9	6	All Dressed in White	Clark/Burke	Pocket	9781501108563	Sep 2016	\$ 7.99	5,670	59,117
22	-	1	Mistletoe Cottage	Debbie Mason	Forever	9781455537174	Oct 2016	\$ 5.99	5,660	5,802
23	10	5	Ashley Bell	Dean Koontz	Bantam	9780345545985	Sep 2016	\$ 9.99	5,596	40,371
24	-	1	Marry Me at Christmas	Susan Mallery	Harlequin Books	9780373789351	Oct 2016	\$ 8.99	5,347	5,536
25	-	1	Wind River Wrangler	Lindsay McKenna	Zebra	9781420141740	Oct 2016	\$ 7.99	4,870	5,070

RANK	LW	WKS	TITLE	AUTHOR	IMPRINT	ISBN	PUB DATE	PRICE	UNITS	YTD
1	1	16	The Girl on the Train	Paula Hawkins	Riverhead	9781594634024	Jul 2016	\$ 16.00	26,585	758,780
2	-	1	Johanna's Christmas	Johanna Basford	Penguin	9780143129301	Oct 2016	\$ 15.00	16,801	17,038
3	2	10	The Girl on the Train (movie tie-in)	Paula Hawkins	Riverhead	9780735212152	Aug 2016	\$ 16.00	15,783	240,947
4	3	4	Missing	Patterson/Fox	Grand Central	9781455568147	Oct 2016	\$ 15.99	9,608	48,834
5	5	37	Milk and Honey	Rupi Kaur	Andrews McMeel	9781449474256	Oct 2015	\$ 14.99	9,036	319,255
6	4	2	Thomas Jefferson and the Tripoli Pirates	Kilmeade/Yaeger	Sentinel	9780143129431	Oct 2016	\$ 17.00	8,953	19,130
7	6	12	Uninvited	Lysa TerKeurst	Nelson	9781400205875	Aug 2016	\$ 16.99	8,440	213,245
8	-	1	The Sellout	Paul Beatty	Picador	9781250083258	Mar 2016	\$ 16.00	8,380	33,953
9	10	6	Inferno (movie tie-in)	Dan Brown	Anchor	9781101974117	Sep 2016	\$ 16.00	7,674	36,341
10	7	7	The Last Mile	David Baldacci	Grand Central	9781455586462	Sep 2016	\$ 15.99	7,136	85,571
11	-	1	Pusheen Coloring Book	Claire Belton	Touchstone	9781501164767	Oct 2016	\$ 12.99	7,120	7,272
12	8	28	In a Dark, Dark Wood	Ruth Ware	Scout	9781501112331	Apr 2016	\$ 16.00	6,583	197,623
13	11	30	My Grandmother Asked Me to Tell You...	Fredrik Backman	Washington Square	9781501115073	Apr 2016	\$ 16.00	6,095	204,037
14	9	13	See Me	Nicholas Sparks	Grand Central	9781455520626	Aug 2016	\$ 15.99	5,951	194,528
15	13	32	The Little Paris Bookshop	Nina George	Broadway	9780553418798	Mar 2016	\$ 16.00	5,470	178,407
16	-	1	Unspeakable	Sandra Brown	Grand Central	9781455593941	Oct 2016	\$ 14.99	5,335	5,351
17	14	15	After You	Jojo Moyes	Penguin	9780143108863	Jul 2016	\$ 16.00	5,151	219,507
18	16	12	Magical Jungle	Johanna Basford	Penguin	9780143109006	Aug 2016	\$ 16.95	4,965	92,179
19	-	1	The Magic Strings of Frankie Presto	Mitch Albom	Harper	9780062294432	Oct 2016	\$ 15.99	4,567	4,616
20	23	22	What to Expect When You're Expecting	Murkoff/Mazel	Workman	9780761187486	May 2016	\$ 15.95	4,452	92,031
21	22	2	The Christmas Wish	Nora Roberts	Silhouette	9780373282289	Oct 2016	\$ 16.99	4,053	8,370
22	24	2	The Perfect Christmas	Debbie Macomber	Mira	9780778319245	Oct 2016	\$ 16.99	4,028	8,065
23	15	5	The Life She Wants	Robyn Carr	Mira	9780778319672	Sep 2016	\$ 15.99	3,789	34,733
24	-	1	Well Fed Weeknights	Melissa Joulwan	Greenleaf	9781626343429	Nov 2016	\$ 24.95	3,726	3,739
25	-	1	Kept	Maya Banks	Berkley	9780425280676	Oct 2016	\$ 16.00	3,523	3,578

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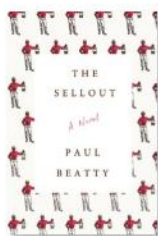
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RANK	WKS	TITLE	AUTHOR	IMPRINT	ISBN	PUB DATE	PRICE	UNITS	YTD
1	13	Harry Potter and the Cursed Child: Parts 1 and 2	J.K. Rowling et al.	Scholastic/Levine	9781338099133	Jul 2016	\$ 29.99	26,987	3,994,413
2	1	DanTDM: Trayaurus and the Enchanted Crystal	DanTDM	HarperCollins	9780062574329	Oct 2016	\$ 19.99	18,636	18,880
3	4	Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secrets	Rowling/Kay	Scholastic/Levine	9780545791328	Oct 2016	\$ 39.99	13,014	126,902
4	4	The Hammer of Thor (Magnus Chase #2)	Rick Riordan	Disney-Hyperion	9781423160922	Oct 2016	\$ 19.99	10,992	110,728
5	7	Ghosts	Raina Telgemeier	Graphix	9780545540629	Sep 2016	\$ 10.99	10,082	93,326
6	1	Middle School: Dog's Best Friend	Patterson/Tebbetts	LB/Patterson	9780316349543	Oct 2016	\$ 13.99	9,107	9,677
7	1	Warm Hearts Day (Owl Diaries #5)	Rebecca Elliott	Scholastic	9781338042801	Oct 2016	\$ 4.99	8,140	8,390
8	55	Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone	Rowling/Kay	Scholastic/Levine	9780545790352	Oct 2015	\$ 39.99	7,537	184,373
9	5	The Fever Code	James Dashner	Delacorte	9780553513097	Sep 2016	\$ 18.99	6,492	62,388
10	13	Miss Peregrine's Home for Peculiar Children (movie tie-in)	Ransom Riggs	Quirk	9781594749025	Aug 2016	\$ 11.99	6,272	135,311
11	14	Gravity Falls: Journal 3	Alex Hirsch	Disney Press	9781484746691	Jul 2016	\$ 19.99	5,184	110,981
12	52	Old School (Diary of a Wimpy Kid #10)	Jeff Kinney	Amulet	9781419717017	Nov 2015	\$ 13.95	5,000	386,476
13	9	Dog Man	Dav Pilkey	Graphix	9780545581608	Aug 2016	\$ 9.99	4,707	49,787
14	3	Star Wars: Ahsoka	E.K. Johnston	Disney Lucasfilm	9781484705667	Oct 2016	\$ 17.99	4,307	20,967
15	5	The Silver Eyes (Five Nights at Freddy's)	Cawthon/Breed-Wrisley	Scholastic	9781338134377	Sep 2016	\$ 9.99	3,840	17,577
16	1	Moon Chosen: Tales of a New World	P.C. Cast	St. Martin's Griffin	9781250100726	Oct 2016	\$ 18.99	2,959	6,622
17	9	Tales of the Peculiar	Ransom Riggs	Dutton	9780399538537	Sep 2016	\$ 24.99	2,919	58,183
18	9	Middle School: The Worst Years... (trade paper movie tie-in)	Patterson/Tebbetts	LB/Patterson	9780316276917	Aug 2016	\$ 7.99	2,779	29,247
19	8	Big Nate: Revenge of the Cream Puffs	Lincoln Peirce	Andrews McMeel	9781449462284	Sep 2016	\$ 9.99	2,619	30,244
20	4	Children of Eden	Joey Graceffa	Keywords	9781501146558	Oct 2016	\$ 18.99	2,431	25,329
21	26	The Hidden Oracle (The Trials of Apollo #1)	Rick Riordan	Disney-Hyperion	9781484732748	May 2016	\$ 19.99	2,348	255,154
22	4	The Sword of Summer (Magnus Chase #1)	Rick Riordan	Disney-Hyperion	9781423160915	Oct 2015	\$ 19.99	2,208	97,720
23	2	What Light	Jay Asher	Razorbill	9781595145512	Oct 2016	\$ 18.99	2,193	5,064
24	6	Three Dark Crowns	Kendare Blake	HarperTeen	9780062385437	Sep 2016	\$ 17.99	2,098	15,450
25	21	Red Queen	Victoria Aveyard	HarperTeen	9780062310644	Jun 2016	\$ 10.99	1,962	90,299

RANK	WKS	TITLE	AUTHOR	IMPRINT	ISBN	PUB DATE	PRICE	UNITS	YTD
1	9	Room on the Broom	Donaldson/Scheffler	Puffin	9780142501122	Aug 2003	\$ 6.99	14,196	107,909
2	11	Little Blue Truck's Halloween	Schertle/McElmurry	HMH	9780544772533	Jul 2016	\$ 12.99	11,158	184,999
3	89	First 100 Words	Roger Priddy	Priddy	9780312510787	May 2011	\$ 5.99	8,673	399,318
4	9	Room on the Broom (board book)	Donaldson/Scheffler	Dial	9780803738416	Aug 2012	\$ 6.99	8,485	74,831
5	9	Pete the Cat: Five Little Pumpkins	James Dean	HarperCollins	9780062304186	Jul 2015	\$ 9.99	7,198	65,643
6	825	Goodnight Moon	Brown/Hurd	HarperFestival	9780694003617	Oct 1991	\$ 8.99	7,088	311,065
7	9	Eek! Halloween!	Sandra Boynton	Workman	9780761193005	Aug 2016	\$ 6.95	7,020	67,516
8	7	The Little Old Lady Who Was Not Afraid of Anything	Williams/Lloyd	HarperTrophy	9780064431835	Aug 2002	\$ 6.99	6,735	50,828
9	8	There Was an Old Lady Who Swallowed a Bat!	Colandro/Lee	Cartwheel	9780439737661	Aug 2005	\$ 6.99	6,725	63,442
10	9	Spooky Pookie	Sandra Boynton	Random House	9780553512335	Jul 2015	\$ 5.99	6,654	55,235
11	1	If You Give a Mouse a Cookie	Numeroff/Bond	HarperCollins	9780060245863	Oct 2015	\$ 16.99	6,277	60,841
12	820	Brown Bear, Brown Bear, What Do You See?	Martin/Carle	Holt	9780805047905	Sep 1996	\$ 7.95	5,977	301,814
13	8	It's Pumpkin Day, Mouse!	Numeroff/Bond	HC/Balzer + Bray	9780694014293	Jul 2012	\$ 6.99	5,888	48,610
14	46	Giraffes Can't Dance	Andreae/Parker-Rees	Cartwheel	9780545392556	Mar 2012	\$ 6.99	5,810	226,374
15	93	Love You Forever	Robert Munsch	Firefly	9780920668375	Sep 1995	\$ 5.95	5,783	277,511
16	760	The Very Hungry Caterpillar	Eric Carle	Philomel	9780399226908	Mar 1994	\$ 10.99	5,665	313,968
17	64	Little Blue Truck (board book)	Schertle/McElmurry	HMH	9780544568037	Jul 2015	\$ 7.99	5,327	246,553
18	8	Biscuit's Pet & Play Halloween	Capucilli/Schories	HarperFestival	9780061128332	Jul 2007	\$ 7.99	5,234	38,050
19	8	Llama Llama Trick or Treat	Anna Dewdney	Viking	9780451469786	Aug 2014	\$ 5.99	4,870	41,259
20	2	If You Give a Mouse a Brownie	Numeroff/Bond	HarperCollins	9780060275716	Oct 2016	\$ 17.99	4,852	10,429
21	8	Goodnight Goon	Michael Rex	Putnam	9780399260117	Aug 2012	\$ 6.99	4,831	42,344
22	7	Happy Halloween, Little Critter!	Mercer Mayer	HarperFestival	9780060539719	Sep 2004	\$ 6.99	4,745	39,317
23	80	The Going to Bed Book	Sandra Boynton	Little Simon	9780671449025	Nov 1982	\$ 5.99	4,610	199,120
24	9	Five Little Pumpkins	Mills/Mantle	Tiger Tales	9781589258563	Sep 2010	\$ 8.95	4,528	45,904
25	9	Happy Halloween, Daniel Tiger!	Santomero/Fruchter	Simon Spotlight	9781481404297	Aug 2014	\$ 6.99	4,364	54,428

iBooks Bestsellers

For the week ended October 30, 2016



Paula Hawkins's *The Girl on the Train* stays on top in Fiction and Literature, while Paul Beatty's *Man Booker*–winning *The Sellout*, the first American-penned novel to nab the prize, has cracked into the top five, taking the #3 slot. In Romance, Kimberly Bracco's *Inhibitions* shows nothing will inhibit its success as it reaches #1 on the charts, followed by Billy Taylor's self-published *Just Friends*. Biographies and Memoirs sees *The Magnolia Story* by HGTV stars Chip and Joanna Gaines at #1, building on the success of their show, *Fixer Upper*.

TOP 15 FICTION & LITERATURE

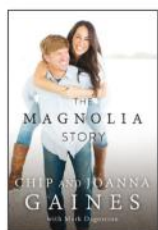
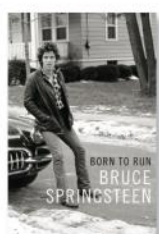
RANK	TITLE	AUTHOR	IMPRINT	ISBN
1	<i>The Girl on the Train</i>	Paula Hawkins	Riverhead	9780698185395
2	<i>Small Great Things</i>	Jodi Picoult	Ballantine	9780345544964
3	<i>The Sellout</i>	Paul Beatty	FSG	9780374712242
4	<i>Two by Two</i>	Nicholas Sparks	Grand Central	9781455520701
5	<i>Sex, Lies & Serious Money</i>	Stuart Woods	Putnam	9780399573965
6	<i>A Man Called Ove</i>	Fredrik Backman	Atria	9781476738031
7	<i>Commonwealth</i>	Ann Patchett	Harper	9780062491817
8	<i>The Woman in Cabin 10</i>	Ruth Ware	Scout	9781501132940
9	<i>The Tiger's Wife</i>	Téa Obreht	Random House	9780679604365
10	<i>The Girl from Venice</i>	Martin Cruz Smith	Simon & Schuster	9781439153192
11	<i>Today Will Be Different</i>	Maria Semple	Little, Brown	9780316403443
12	<i>The Nightingale</i>	Kristin Hannah	St. Martin's	9781466850606
13	<i>Winter Storms</i>	Elin Hilderbrand	Little, Brown	9780316261159
14	<i>The Underground Railroad</i>	Colson Whitehead	Doubleday	9780385537049
15	<i>The Sweetness</i>	Sande Boritz Berger	She Writes	9781631529085

TOP 10 ROMANCE

RANK	TITLE	AUTHOR	IMPRINT	ISBN
1	<i>Inhibitions</i>	Kimberly Bracco	Kimberly Bracco	–
2	<i>Just Friends</i>	Billy Taylor	Billy Taylor	9781530511518
3	<i>Secret Star</i>	Nora Roberts	Silhouette	9781459213159
4	<i>The Sexy One</i>	Lauren Blakely	Lauren Blakely	–
5	<i>Marriage Games</i>	C.D. Reiss	Flip City	9781942833284
6	<i>Unrestricted</i>	Kimberly Bracco	Kimberly Bracco	–
7	<i>Three Wise Men Box Set</i>	Serenity Woods	Serenity Woods	9781536544213
8	<i>Badd Motherf*cker</i>	Jasinda Wilder	Jasinda Wilder	9781941098530
9	<i>Royally Screwed</i>	Emma Chase	Emma Chase	9780997426229
10	<i>Sinful Nights, Books 1–3</i>	Lauren Blakely	Lauren Blakely	–

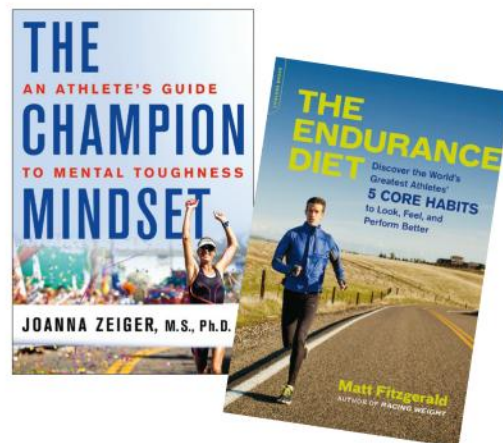
TOP 10 BIOGRAPHIES & MEMOIRS

RANK	TITLE	AUTHOR	IMPRINT	ISBN
1	<i>The Magnolia Story</i>	Gaines/Gaines	W	9780718081539
2	<i>Born to Run</i>	Bruce Springsteen	Simon & Schuster	9781501141539
3	<i>Not Dead Yet</i>	Phil Collins	Crown Archetype	9781101907498
4	<i>Alexander Hamilton</i>	Ron Chernow	Penguin	9781101200858
5	<i>Love Warrior</i>	Glenon Doyle Melton	Flatiron	9781250075741
6	<i>The Girl with the Lower Back Tattoo</i>	Amy Schumer	Gallery	9781501139901
7	<i>When Breath Becomes Air</i>	Paul Kalanithi	Random House	9780812988413
8	<i>Lady Sings the Blues</i>	Billie Holiday	Broadway	9780307786166
9	<i>The Spark</i>	Kristine Barnett	Random House	9780679645245
10	<i>Night</i>	Elie Wiesel	FSG	9781466805361



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A WINNING COMBINATION



New health titles cater to triathletes and gym rats, tipplers and dessert lovers, and everyone in between

By DANIEL LEFFERTS

Whether they offer high-intensity workout plans, recipes for healthy-minded baking, or advice on managing chronic pain, this season's forthcoming health books span the full spectrum from "drop and give me 20" to "take it easy." What emerges from this variety is a perhaps more complicated understanding of what we mean when we say "new year, new you." Fitter you? Healthier you? More comfortable you? They're all in the mix.

The Everyday Olympian

If, while watching the Olympics in Rio this summer, you found yourself reaching for your old five-pound free weights, you weren't alone. Justin Klug, an editor at the fitness-focused publisher Human Kinetics, says that the international event goesos traffic to the company's website and boosts sales: "We definitely see an uptick in interest after major sporting events such as the Olympics." This season's health list is rife with books aimed at amateur athletes who want to step up their fitness game.

In the coming months, Human Kinetics is releasing new titles focused on specialized fitness practices. *The Modern Art of High Intensity Training* by

Aurélien Broussal-Derval and Stéphane Ganneau (Mar. 2017) offers a visual guide to high-level strength training. *TRX Suspension Training* by Mark Stephenson and Jay Dawes (Apr. 2017) outlines exercises using suspension equipment, of which TRX, the book's brand partner, is a leading seller. Klug says that suspension training has grown in popularity over the years in part because people can do it either at home or while traveling.

Busy travelers might also take to *4-Minute Fit* by Siphwe Baleka (Touchstone, Apr. 2017). A former NCAA Division I athlete, Baleka packed on the pounds after he started working as a truck driver—a famously sedentary job—in 2008. He now operates Fitness Trucking and acts as an in-house health expert at Prime Inc., one of the nation's largest trucking companies; the book is based on the 13-week plan he implements with trucker clients at Prime.

This season also brings books that teach readers how to keep their heads in the game. In *The Champion Mindset*, professional triathlete and biostatistics consultant Joanna Zeiger (St. Martin's, Feb. 2017) outlines steps toward overcoming the mental hurdles to athletic achievement. She uses herself as an example, detailing her progress from novice

swimmer to Olympian and Ironman champion.

Several books make the case that the stomach is as important as the mind, offering exercise-friendly recipes. Examples include *The Vegetarian Athlete's Cookbook* by Anita Bean (Bloomsbury, Jan. 2017), a nutritionist, former bodybuilder, and author of several titles on sports nutrition, and *The Endurance Training Diet & Cookbook* by Jesse Kropelnicki (Harmony, Jan. 2017), who developed the Core Diet, geared for triathlon training.

A similarly titled January book from Da Capo, *The Endurance Diet* by sports nutritionist Matt Fitzgerald (*How Bad Do You Want It?*, VeloPress, 2015; 13,000 print copies sold per Nielsen BookScan), identifies five diet habits that, according to the author, maximize workout results. Da Capo editorial director Renée Sedliar says that the book taps into a growing interest in endurance sports such as marathon running, which are "becoming more popular and more accessible" for the general population.

Indeed, everyday athletes seem to be getting bolder about their exercise routines. In *What Doesn't Kill Us* (Rodale, Jan. 2017), journalist Scott Carney explores a growing fitness subculture—examples of which include Tough Mudder and Spartan racing—that emphasizes natural settings and archaic physical challenges.

The Swoly Bible by Dom Mazzetti (Plume, Nov.) critiques gym culture from the inside. Inspired by Mazzetti's popular YouTube channel, BroScienceLife (1.8 million subscribers),

Health & Fitness Books

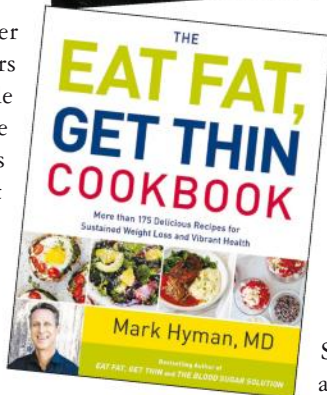
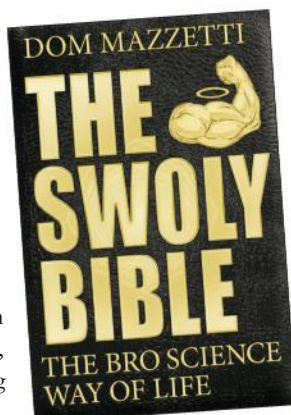
which Mazzetti operates with cocreator Mike Tornabene, the book offers a lovingly satirical guide to gym-bro culture. Topics include how to defeat your gym nemesis and why you should never trust Crossfitters.

Step by Step

For those already dreading the annual resolution bonanza—gym every day, fewer carbs, no sugar, etc.—a more forgiving approach to getting healthy may appeal.

One Part Plant by Jessica Murnane (Harper Wave, Feb. 2017), for example, guides readers toward what she's found to be a healthier lifestyle with a program that requires making only one of the day's meals plant based. The book draws on Murnane's experience of changing her diet when she became ill with endometriosis.

Julie Will, editorial director at Harper Wave, says that the book, which includes a foreword from Lena Dunham (a fellow endometriosis sufferer whom Murnane has advised), "takes you by the hand and eases



you into it—just a few more vegetables in your diet. It's not a radical overhaul. It's really approachable."

Will also edited Serena Wolf's recently published *The Dude Diet*, which offers healthier versions of "man food" staples, divided into categories such as game-day eats and take-out favorites. Of more approachable guides to eating healthier, Will says, "I think the diet pendulum has swung really far one way. For a while people were really into counting calories and restrictive diets. Now it's swinging back more toward the center" with an emphasis on things like whole foods and mindful eating.

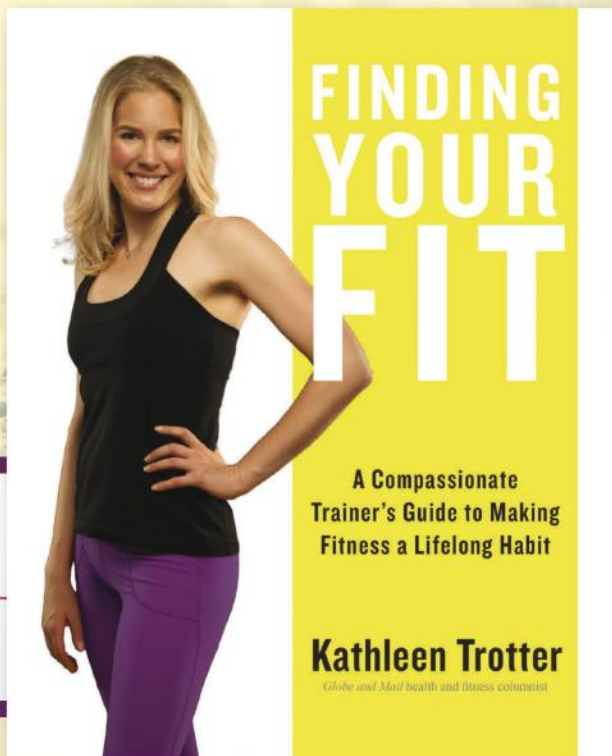
Another recent shift: for many, fat is no longer necessarily the enemy. *The Eat Fat, Get Thin Cookbook* by Mark Hyman (Little, Brown, Jan. 2017) is a companion to 2016's *Eat Fat, Get Thin*, which has sold 128,000 print copies, according to BookScan. The book's more than 175 recipes incorporate sources of so-called good fat, including nuts, avocado, and coconut oil.

Nourishing Fats (Grand Central, Jan. 2017) by Sally Fallon Morrell explores the health benefits of animal fat and offers tips on how to incorporate

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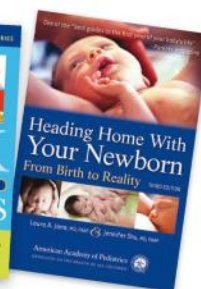
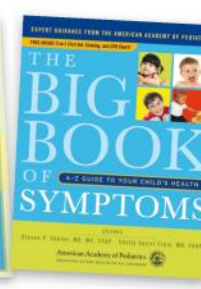
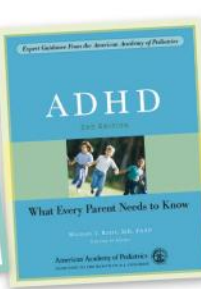
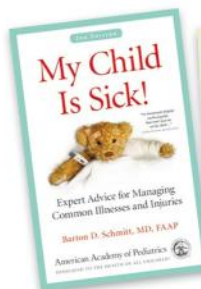
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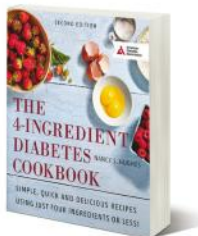
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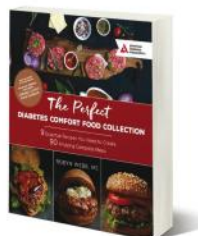


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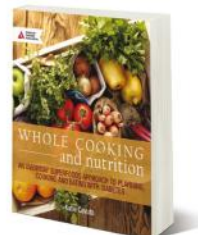


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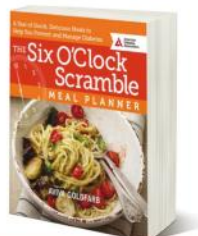


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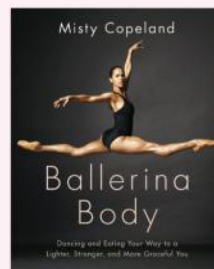
Misty Copeland, the first African-American woman to be promoted to principal dancer at the American Ballet Theatre, has long defied conventional notions of what a ballet dancer looks like. She detailed the challenges she overcame in her 2014 autobiography, *Life in Motion* (Touchstone), subtitled *An Unlikely Ballerina*, which has sold 56,000 print copies per Nielsen BookScan.

Now, in *Ballerina Body* (Grand Central Life & Style, Mar. 2017), her first health and fitness title, she offers meal plans, workout routines, and a message regarding unrealistic beauty standards. Karen Murgolo, v-p, editorial director at Life & Style, says that Copeland, who has a more robust physique than the typical ballet dancer, "wants to tell every girl and woman that their body is great for them."

Copeland isn't the only professional bringing ballet to the masses this spring.

Mary Helen Bowers, who trained Natalie Portman for her Oscar-winning role in *Black Swan*, highlights her Ballet Beautiful method in *Ballet for Life* (Rizzoli, Mar. 2017). The book includes exercises, posture lessons, and wellness tips, accompanied by 150 photographs. Rizzoli senior editor Caitlin Leffel says that the book is one readers might keep on their coffee tables, "but it also informs them of how to achieve a ballet-like physique." Model Alexa Chung, a devotee of Bowers's method, contributes the foreword.

—D.L.



From *Ballet for Life* by Mary Helen Bowers

PHOTO: PARES POLLS

animal fat into one's diet. Morrell is the coauthor of 2014's *Nourishing Broth*, which has sold 36,000 print copies, per BookScan.

An emphasis on health even drives books focused on traditional dieting no-no's: desserts and drinks. *The Thinking Girl's Guide to Drinking* (Regan Arts, Nov.) by Ariane Resnick, a nutritionist and private chef, and Brittini Bae, a mixologist, collects cocktail recipes featuring ingredients with health benefits, such

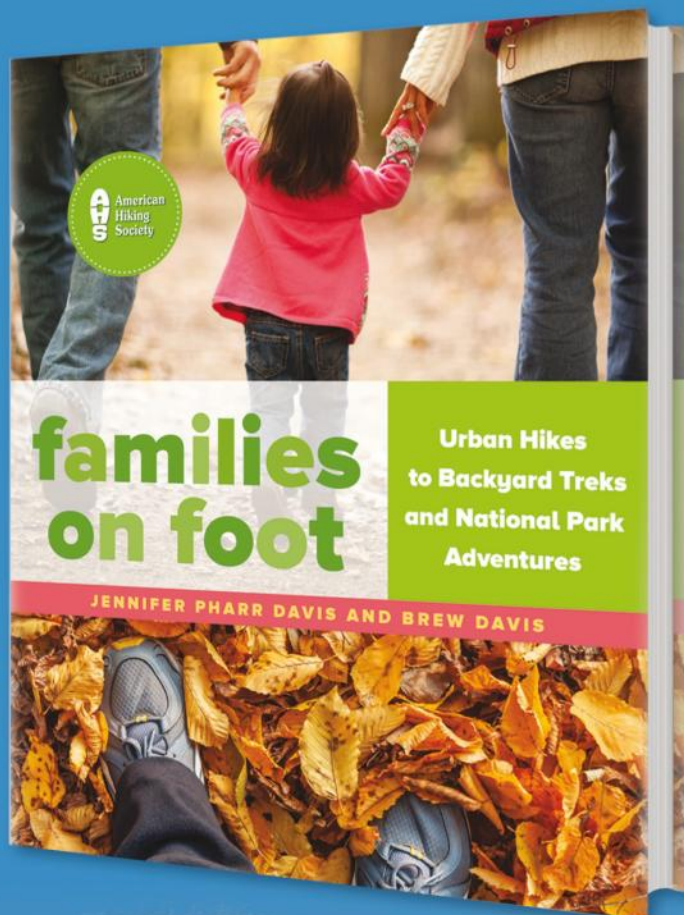


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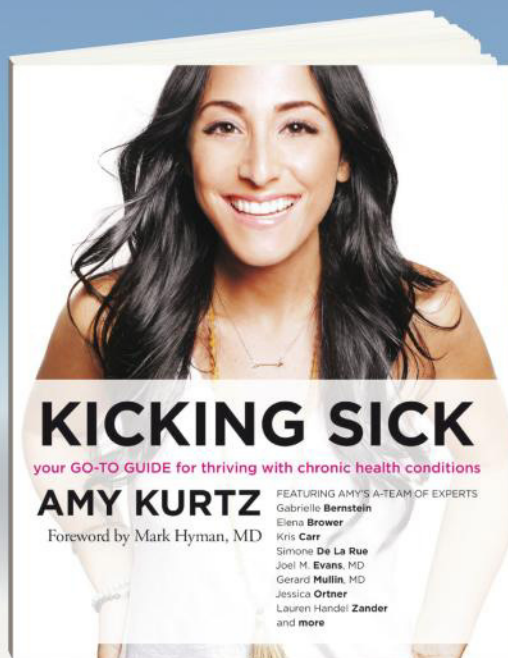
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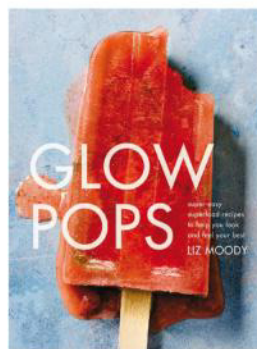
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as coconut cream and kombucha.

A New Way to Bake (Clarkson Potter, Mar. 2017), billed as "from the kitchens of Martha Stewart," includes recipes for baked goods that swap out traditional ingredients for wheat germ, spelt flour, and other updates. Ashley Meyers, senior editor at Clarkson Potter, concedes that desserts made with such ingredients may have unfam-

iliar tastes and textures, but she suggests that readers are ready for new takes. "It's different, but there's something really good about that," she says. "There's more to play with, tastewise."

In *Glow Pops* (Clarkson Potter, Apr. 2017), Liz Moody, a health blogger with 25,000 Instagram followers, offers 55 recipes for treats on a stick with atypical ingredients, for example, Avocado Chile Lime and Tumeric Golden Milk.

New Takes on Old Aches

According to the National Institute of Health, more than 25 million American adults experience chronic pain, often in connection with chronic disease or poor overall health. And while pain management has always been central to health coverage, "Chronic problems in general are getting more airtime," according to Jennifer Weis, an executive editor at St. Martin's, which will publish the chronic-condition-focused *How Can I Get Better?* by Richard Horowitz in January 2017.

Heal Your Pain Now by doctor of physical therapy and nutritionist Joe Tatta (Da Capo, Feb. 2017) addresses the connection between pain and weight issues, a link that the book's editor, Dan Ambrosio, says is overlooked. "Every generation, there's a higher percentage of people who are overweight or obese, and certainly there's a link between that and chronic pain."

Forever Painless by Miranda Esmonde-White (Harper Wave, Nov.), who hosts the PBS fitness show *Classic Stretch*, offers low-intensity exercises aimed at reducing chronic pain. Harper Wave editorial director Julie Will says that concern over widespread painkiller abuse may be helping to revive the conversation about chronic pain. Books on the topic "are perennial bestsellers," she says. "It's an issue that doesn't go away, so people are always looking for answers. The good news is people are starting to look for solutions outside of drugs."

Another guide to managing pain through gentle stretching and exercise comes from *Heal Your Frozen Shoulder* by aging-focused physician Karl Knopf (Ulysses, Feb. 2017), author of 2011's *Foam Roller Workbook* (29,000 print copies sold, per BookScan). Casie Vogel, senior acquisitions editor at Ulysses, says she's seen a surge of interest in books



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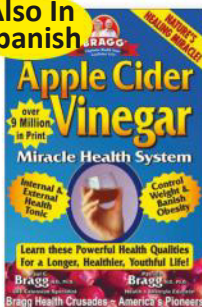
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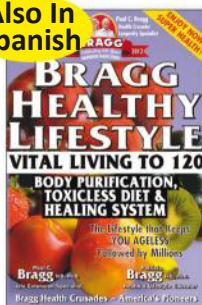


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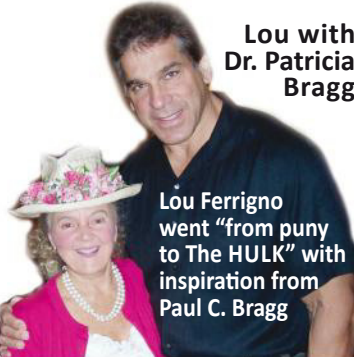


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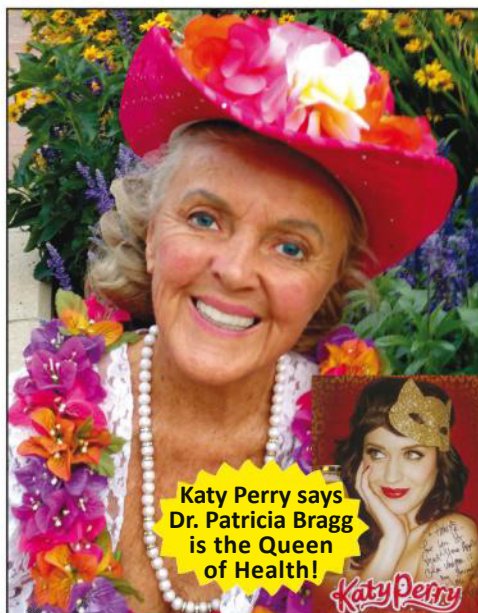
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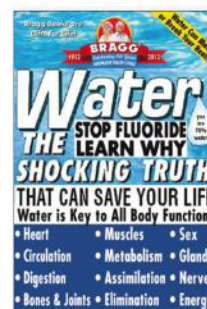
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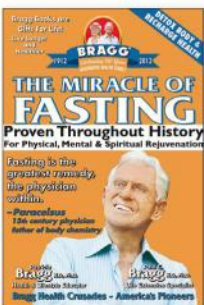
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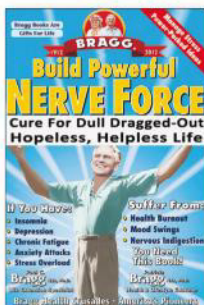
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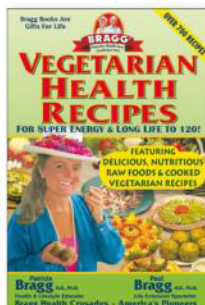
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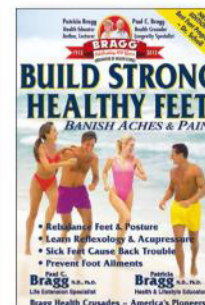
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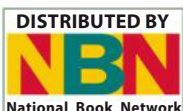
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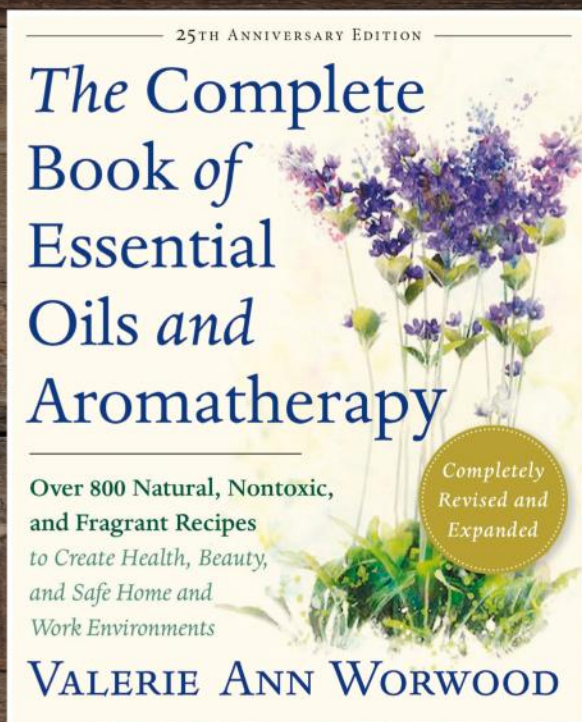
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addressing pain. "We've noticed that our backlist titles in this area, some of them 10 years old, are having their best years ever," she says.

Jon Graham, acquisitions editor at Inner Traditions, notes an uptick in proposals for books on the subject of pain. "A few years ago, stress was the condition everyone was sending in recipe books for," he says. "Now there are a lot more dealing with acute and chronic pain." *Overcoming Acute and Chronic Pain* by Marc S. Micozzi and Sebhia M. Dibra (Inner Traditions, Jan. 2017) pairs various mind-body chronic-pain-management techniques with different personality types—those who are thick skinned vs. those who are thin skinned, for example.

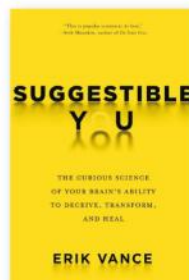
A mind-body approach also powers *Kicking Sick* by Amy Kurtz (Sounds True, Jan. 2017), which draws on the author's

FROM LAB TO LAYPERSON

New books extract actionable tips from the world of health-focused research.

Suggestible You

Erik Vance. *National Geographic*, Nov. Science journalist Vance looks at the roles expectation and self-deception play in our mental and physical health, touching on such topics as the placebo effect, hypnosis, and alternative medicine. His driving question: Can our suggestibility be harnessed to bring about real change in our minds and bodies?



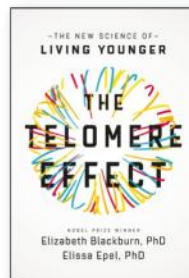
The Salt Fix

James DiNicolantonio. *Harmony*, Apr. 2017
Few health dicta are safe for long, and the long-standing wisdom about minimizing salt intake comes under scrutiny in this book by DiNicolantonio, a cardiovascular research scientist and doctor of pharmacy who argues that salt serves numerous functions, such as helping the body to fend off illness, and that eating too little of it can increase hunger or even elevate blood pressure.



The Telomere Effect

Elizabeth Blackburn and Elissa Epel. *Grand Central*, Jan. 2017
Blackburn, who shared the Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine in 2009 for her discovery of telomeres—think of them as protective caps for DNA—sheds light on how nourishing these genetic structures, through diet and lifestyle habits, can help improve health and combat aging. Coauthor Epel, a health psychologist, founded UCSF's Center on Obesity Assessment, Study, and Treatment. —D.L.



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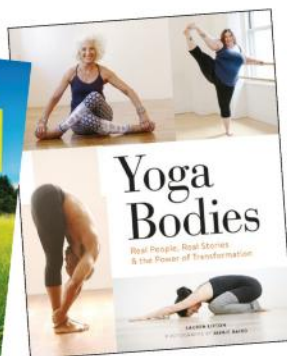
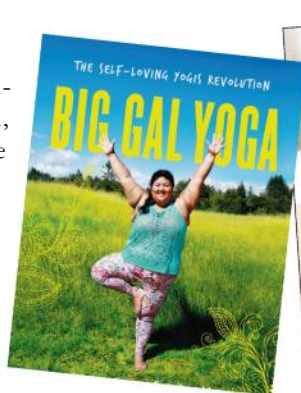
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experience with several chronic conditions, including long-term back pain, celiac disease, and Lyme disease. The book offers advice on living with chronic medical conditions—navigating social situations, getting the most out of doctor visits, etc.—with input from a roundtable of experts that includes Kris Carr (*Crazy Sexy Cancer*) and wellness guru Gabrielle Bernstein (*May Cause Miracles*).



who think yoga isn't for them. "All yoga bodies deserve to be represented in print, not just those that are slender, young, female, and white" she writes, explaining the impetus behind the book. "Yoga is for everybody and every body."

Similarly, *Yoga Bodies* by

Lauren Lipton (Chronicle, Mar. 2017), a yogi

and journalist, comprises more than 100 photos of mold-breaking yoga practitioners, including the larger bodied and differently abled and people of various ethnicities. Rachel Hiles, a project editor at Chronicle, says that the book, which is nonprescriptive, contests the idea that in order to practice yoga "you have to have the right body, fit into the right clothes," or be the right age. "Whoever you are, there's a place on the map for you," she says.

A broader look at the issue of appearance and health comes from *Curvy & Confident* (Chicken Soup for the Soul, Jan. 2017) by Amy Newmark, Chicken Soup publisher and editor-in-chief, and Emme Aronson, who is considered the world's first plus-size supermodel, with journalist Natasha Stoyanoff, who recently made headlines by writing in *People* that she was once sexually assaulted by Donald Trump. Newmark calls the book, which is made up of 101 personal essays, "an anti-New Year's resolution book" that focuses on nurturing and feeling confident in one's body, with a focus on health.

As Newmark points out, self-acceptance isn't the same thing as complacency. "These stories are not keeping people on a pre-diabetes track," she says. "These women are getting fit, within the body types that they have." It's an approach taken by health titles this season: we'll meet you where you are. ■

Daniel Lefferts is a writer living in New York City.

Beautiful Inside and Out

Feeling good about yourself even when you don't have a conventionally "healthy" looking body is the theme of several new books, which put forth the idea that one can achieve wellness at any weight or ability level, and that beauty and health are not synonymous with thinness.

Big Gal Yoga by Valerie Sagun (Seal Press, Jun. 2017) features photographs and advice aimed at yoga practitioners with non-traditional yoga bodies. The book is inspired by the author's Instagram account, which has almost 150,000 followers and which features photos of Sagun, the self-described "big gal," in various yoga poses.

Laura Mazer, an executive editor at Seal, says that Sagun advances the idea that yoga, perhaps counter to its reputation, is "an ideal method for health and movement for bigger-bodied women," and that Sagun's work connects to a wider fat-positive movement. "Fat does not equate [with] unhealthy," Mazer says of the movement's ethos. "Bigger bodies are beautiful bodies."

That same principle drives other yoga-focused titles, among them *Every Body Yoga* by Jessamyn Stanley (Workman, Apr. 2017), a yoga instructor with 234,000 Instagram followers. In the book, she demonstrates (via color photos) 50 basic yoga poses and 10 sequences, while offering encouragement for those

Health Heavyweights

Here's a look at books by champs of the diet-and-fitness ring, as well as contenders vying for a shot at the bestseller belt

The Brain Warrior's Way

(NAL, Nov.)

In this corner... Daniel G. Amen, a psychiatrist, and his wife, Tana Amen, a registered nurse and nutrition consultant

Weighing in at... 1.6 million print copies sold since 2001 of several books

by Daniel Amen, including *Change Your Brain, Change Your Life* (Harmony, most recent revision 2015) and *The Daniel Plan* (Harmony, 2013), which he coauthored with Rick Warren and Mark Hyman

The Amens propose ways to improve focus, sharpen memory, stabilize mood,

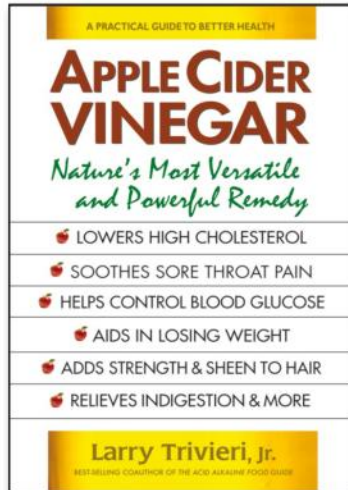
and more. An accompanying cookbook publishes the same day.

But My Family Would Never Eat Vegan!

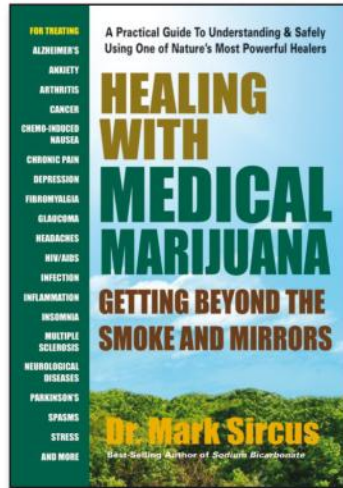
(The Experiment, Nov.)

In this corner... Kristy Turner, the recipe developer and food stylist behind

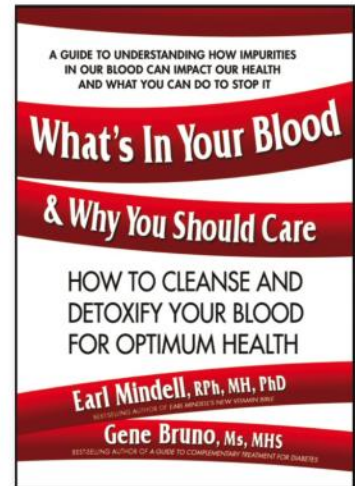
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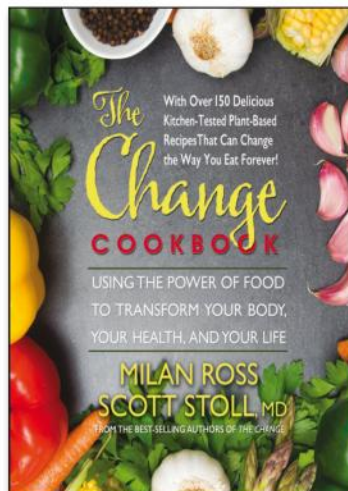
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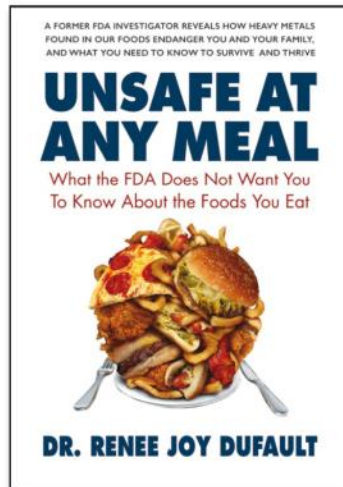
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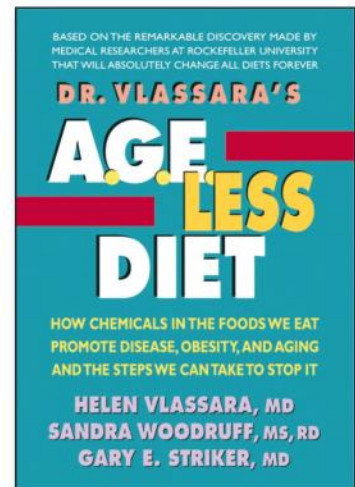
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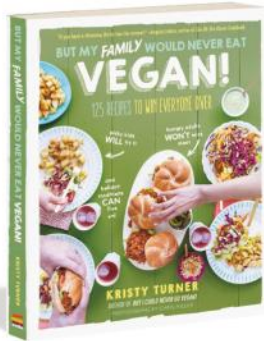
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Health & Fitness Books



the Keepin' It Kind food blog
Weighing in at... 41K print copies sold of 2014's *But I Could Never Go Vegan!*; 21K Facebook fans

This collection of animal-product-free recipes is aimed at home cooks hoping to prove picky eaters and meat-and-potato types wrong when it comes to vegan cuisine.

Diet Right for Your Personality Type
 (Harmony, Feb. 2017)

In this corner... Jen Widerstrom, a

Biggest Loser trainer

Weighing in at... 211K Instagram followers

Widerstrom lays out a four-week weight-loss program that can be adapted to different personality types, including the Everyday Hero, the Organized Doer, and the Rebel.



Goop Clean Beauty

(Grand Central, Dec.)

In this corner... The editors of *Goop*, the wellness website and lifestyle brand that

Gwyneth Paltrow launched in 2008

Weighing in at... 469K Instagram followers; 395K print copies combined for Paltrow's three previous books

The first book to bear the Goop imprimatur offers advice on sleep, diet, and skin care, and includes 100 photos of women—among them Paltrow, who also contributed the foreword.

Green Smoothies for Life

(Atria, Dec.)

In this corner... J.J. Smith, nutritionist and weight-loss expert

Weighing in at... 1.2 million Facebook fans; 536K print copies sold of 2014's *10-Day Green Smoothie Cleanse*

Smith builds on her cleanse program with 30-plus recipes that readers can incorporate into their daily lives.

Head Strong

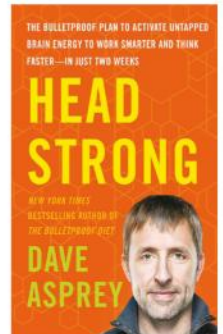
(Harper Wave, Apr. 2017)

In this corner...

Dave Asprey, the creator of Bulletproof Coffee

Weighing in at... 351K Twitter followers; 77K print copies sold of *The Bulletproof Diet* (Rodale, 2014)

This two-week dietary and lifestyle program aims to improve brain function.

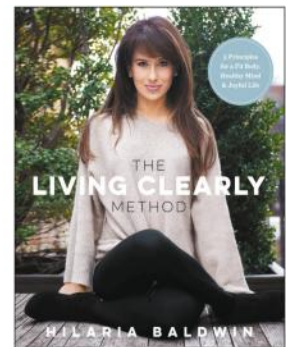


- Groundbreaking new book that taps into the current conversation about body image, confidence, and judging women based on appearance

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The Living Clearly Method

(Rodale, Dec.)

In this corner... Hilaria Baldwin, yoga instructor and wife of actor Alec Baldwin

Weighing in at... 209K Instagram followers

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The Metabolism Plan

(Grand Central Life & Style, Jan. 2017)

In this corner... Lyn-Genet Recitas, a nutritionist

Weighing in at... 107K print copies sold of *The Plan* (2013)

Building on the program laid out in her earlier book, Recitas dispenses diet and exercise recommendations, advising readers to work out smarter, not harder.

Mind Over Meds

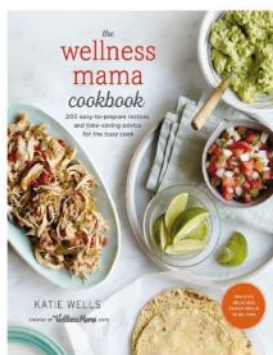
(Little, Brown, Apr. 2017)

In this corner... Andrew Weil, physician, longtime natural-healing advocate, and author of multiple books

Weighing in at... 649K Twitter followers; 351K print copies sold of 2002's

The Healthy Kitchen; 315K for 2005's *Healthy Aging*

Are we living in an overmedicated age? That's the argument advanced by the natural-healing titan, who here explores the adverse effects of prescription drugs and sheds light on alternative options for fighting illness.



The Wellness Mama Cookbook

(Harmony, Jan. 2017)

In this corner... Katie Wells, the blogger

behind Wellness Mama

Weighing in at... 605K Facebook likes

The mother of six, whose self-published cookbook sold out of its first and only print run of 11K copies, offers 200 grain- and added-sugar-free recipes aimed at time-crunched families.

Whole New You

(Ballantine, Mar. 2017)

In this corner... Tia Mowry, former costar of ABC/the WB's *Sister, Sister* and current star of the Cooking Channel's *Tia Mowry at Home*

Weighing in at... 3.3 million Instagram followers; 1.99 million Twitter followers

Inspired by her cooking show, Mowry's book remixes classic comfort and soul food dishes (such as Crispy Collard Chips) with a focus on whole foods and clean eating.

Wired to Eat

(Harmony, Mar. 2017)

In this corner... Robb Wolf, a former research biochemist

Weighing in at... 231K print copies sold of *The Paleo Solution* (Victory Belt, 2010); 116K Twitter followers

Wolf's 30-day weight-loss plan focuses on determining and managing one's glucose tolerance.

Zero Sugar Diet

(Ballantine, Dec.)

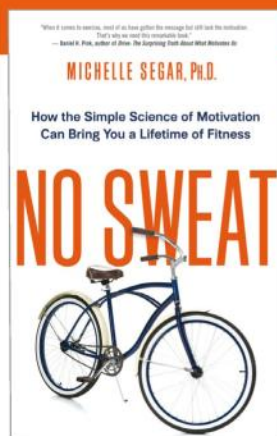
In this corner... David Zinczenko, editorial director of *Men's Fitness* and former editor-in-chief of *Men's Health*, and Stephen Perrine, former publisher of Rodale

Weighing in at... 5.5 million print copies sold of several books written or coauthored by Zinczenko, including Rodale's *Eat This, Not That!* series

Tips on avoiding foods that contain added sugars—which, the authors argue, are the main cause of weight gain—and upping one's intake of fibers and whole foods.

—D.L.

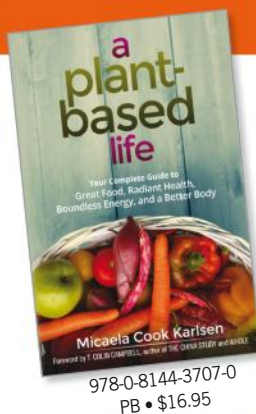
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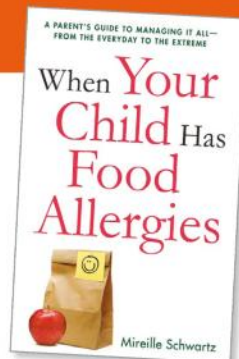
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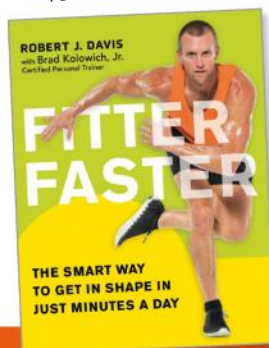
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Staying Alive

The sixth entry in Otto Penzler's Big Books series takes on Jack the Ripper

BY LENNY PICKER



On the very morning that I interviewed Otto Penzler in his basement office beneath the Mysterious Bookshop in lower Manhattan, the *New York Times* reported on a new scientific study that tied reading books to living longer. Informed of these findings, the genial workaholic 74-year-old editor/publisher/bookseller was pleased: “Good. I was planning on living forever.”

Penzler is certainly the best test subject in the mystery and crime field for that hypothesis. For his 2015 anthology, *The Big Book of Sherlock Holmes Stories* (Black Lizard), he read 450 stories about the legendary sleuth in order to select the 83 most deserving of inclusion. And he was similarly diligent in making the choices for his sixth in the series, *The Big Book of Jack the Ripper*, which came out in October, also from Vintage Crime's Black Lizard imprint.

The Ripper title breaks new ground for the series: in addition to 41 fictional entries, including short stories and novels from unexpected contributors such as Isak Dinesen, Penzler has provided primary nonfiction sources on the notorious crimes—for instance contemporaneous witness statements and autopsy reports. He also, for the first time, commissioned original tales from talented contemporary authors including Jeffery Deaver, Lyndsay Faye, Anne Perry, and Daniel Stashower. The result is a creative exploration of the impact that the unsolved Whitechapel murders have had on society and on popular culture in the 128 years since they were committed, an impact that more than justifies the publication of another book on the killer.

Penzler's editor, Edward Kastenmeier, is unstinting in his praise for Penzler. “His knowledge of the genre is unrivaled, his editorial acumen is impressive, and his familiarity with the literary community is hard to beat.” Kastenmeier believes that the series has been so successful because “it scratches a completist itch many of us share.” He adds: “Read one of these books and you know you will have read all the best stories the subject has to offer. There is also the satisfaction of sitting down with a huge treasure trove of classic stories and rediscovered gems. Each of these topics has an enthusiastic fan base. We try to target each anthology's niche audience and build out from there. If you find the devoted readers, others will follow. The Big Books also make great gifts, and so we find the fall is a good time to publish, setting us up for the holidays.”

Penzler grew up in the South Bronx in the 1950s, a “very poor, but not dangerous” neighborhood at the time. At the age of 10, his reading, in his elementary school library, of the classic Conan Doyle Holmes story “The Red-Headed League” was interrupted by the school bell. Penzler returned to finish the tale the next day, but despite his fascination with Jabez Wilson's odd account of being paid to copy the entire *Encyclopaedia Britannica* by hand, Penzler didn't catch the bug just

Author Profile

then, and he read mostly nonfiction until college. He attended the University of Michigan, where, as an English major, he read James Joyce and the Russians—a lot of “stuff that hurt my head,” he says.

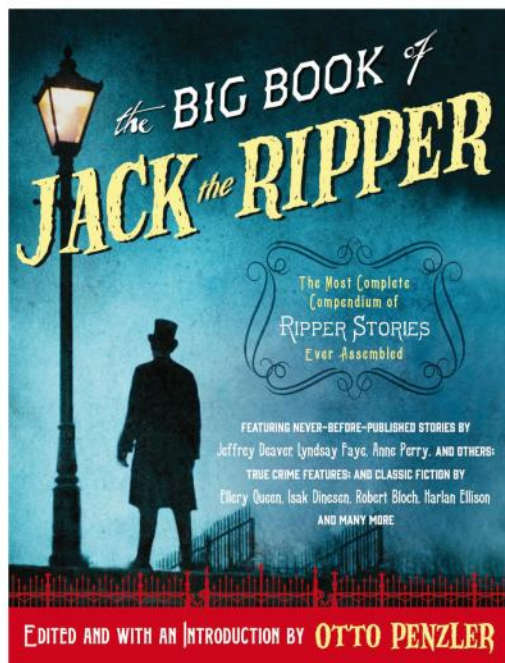
When he returned to New York City after graduation, Penzler wanted a literary change of pace, something easier and more fun. So he dipped into *The Complete Sherlock Holmes* and fell in love with mystery fiction. He went on to read the classic golden age authors—John Dickson Carr, Agatha Christie, Ellery Queen, Rex Stout—before encountering Raymond Chandler, and discovering that mystery fiction could also be literature.

Having failed to realize his twin dreams of being a Major League baseball player and the author of the great American novel, Penzler downsized and merged his ambitions, working as a sportswriter for the *New York Daily News* and then as a publicist for ABC Sports.

Penzler also began collecting first editions after college, but on a salary of \$42 per week, his goal of having first editions of all great literature was not realistic. But with first editions of Chandler and Hammett available on Manhattan's old Fourth Avenue Booksellers' Row for 50¢ each, collecting mystery classics was a real possibility.

As he began building his personal collection, Penzler also took steps to realize another dream. Feeling that gifted genre authors were not getting the respect that they deserved, he wanted to start his own company, based in his small Bronx apartment, that would publish, for the first time, limited signed editions of mystery books. After a lunch with Joan Kahn of Harper's Novel of Suspense series, he asked her, “How hard could it be?” He soon learned how hard it could be, doing everything for the Mysterious Press himself, in an era before easy access to Xerox machines, let alone word processing and email.

In 1976, the Mysterious Press made its debut with Peter Todd's collection of



parodies, *The Adventures of Herlock Sholmes*, in a limited edition of 1,250 copies. The press's stable of authors expanded to include Robert L. Fish and Robert Bloch, but its big break came with the 1977 publication of *Lew Archer—Private Investigator*, the first complete collection of Ross Macdonald's short stories, with a special introduction written by the author. Penzler sent out pamphlets including that introduction, and the *New York Times Book Review* covered the title on the front page, including the entire intro.

Penzler became recognized as an expert in the mystery field after his friend Chris Steinbrunner, whom he met at a Baker Street Irregulars banquet, asked him to collaborate on what would become *The Encyclopedia of Mystery and Detection* (McGraw-Hill, 1976), which won an Edgar in 1977 for Best Critical/Biographical Work. Soon after the encyclopedia was published, Penzler bought a building on West 56th Street in Manhattan as a home for the press and the specialty bookstore that now reside on Warren Street.

The Mysterious Bookshop survived some rocky early years by virtue of a stable of “very good” customers, collec-

tors whose mentality Penzler shared. Business took off in the mid-1980s, when great writers, including Dick Francis, Sue Grafton, Walter Mosley, and Robert B. Parker, began signing books for Penzler to sell.

Penzler himself once tried his hand at a suspense short story, but realized that though he could write a decent sentence, he was better suited for the sort of nonfiction essays that precede each of his Big Book entries. His contributions to *The Big Book of Jack the Ripper* are typically concise and insightful, for both neophytes and experts.

When asked what has surprised him the most in his decades wearing every conceivable hat in the publishing industry, Penzler answered that it was the kindness of the mystery writers he'd encountered. His early advocacy of writers whom he believes deserve a wide readership has been paid back to him.

Lee Child is one of many who have gone out of their way to help Penzler and the bookstore. “It's much less a case of me being generous than what goes around comes around,” Child says. “Otto was a passionate supporter of mine back at the beginning, so it's a pleasure and a privilege to be able to return his many kindnesses. Historically, this was the role of independent genre bookstores—they broke us out, and we remember that.” Child manifested that gratitude in authorizing the Mysterious Bookshop to publish 100 signed and numbered limited editions of all his Jack Reacher novels, and by writing a new introductory essay for each.

Penzler's Big Book series belies what had been the accepted wisdom: that short story collections and anthologies don't sell. He currently edits six to eight such volumes each year, adding more to his incredible total of stories read and, perhaps, prolonging his life. ■

Lenny Picker is a freelance writer in New York City.

Reviews

Fiction

Heritage of Smoke

Josip Novakovich. Dzanc, \$16.95 trade paper (240p) ISBN 978-1-941088-66-1

The characters in Novakovich's excellent stories tend to be in extremis: people in the midst of war, or refugees escaping it, or veterans trying to forget it. His muscular prose and remarkable sense of place and history (both recent and somewhat distant) make for thrilling reading.

What's more surprising and impressive is the breadth of territory covered here. One story is set in Hungary in the 1950s; another follows a Dutchman named Martin Neeskens who worked for the U.N. during the Bosnian conflicts in the 1990s but now lives in New York.

Another, set on the Upper West Side of Manhattan, involves a clutch of international roommates, including two Russian émigrés, crammed into an apartment. Themes overlap, but each story presents its own unique world. In the title story, Jovan, a refugee from Croatia now living in Belgrade, reconnects with an old friend named Danko. The very act of mentally reopening that door is complex—painful and confusing and grotesquely humorous, but above all inescapable. "Smoke is the flavor of our memories," Jovan says. Novakovich's evocative stories leave echoes after reading. (*Jan.*)

★ The Signal Flame

Andrew Krivák. Scribner, \$26 (288p) ISBN 978-1-5011-2637-6

National Book Award—finalist Krivák continues in the tradition of his debut (*The Sojourn*) with this bleak but breathtaking second novel. The book opens with the death of the family patriarch, Jozef Vinich, who leaves his sprawling farm in Pennsylvania's rural Endless Mountains to his daughter, Hannah, and oldest grandson, Bo. While Bo runs the roughing mill, Hannah tends the chickens, and the two await the return of Bo's brother, Sam, who is reported MIA in Vietnam. Told in three parts stretching



Raduan Nassar's intensely powerful novel Ancient Tillage is an essential and unflinching coming-of-age story (reviewed on this page).

from Easter to Christmas Eve 1972, the narrative soon picks up steam with the addition of Ruth, Sam's pregnant fiancée, and the daughter of the man responsible for killing Hannah's husband in a hunting mishap. By the third section, more backstory has been revealed—Ruth's ancestral ties to Vinich's land, Sam's reasons for enlisting, Hannah's long-held grudge against Ruth's father—adding texture and depth to the family's already rich history. Devastating accidents befall these characters and the heartache they endure is palpable. But there's love, too. This family saga is quiet at its core, but it's Krivák's gorgeous prose and deep grasp of the relationship between longing and loss that make the book such a stunner. (*Jan.*)

Ancient Tillage

Raduan Nassar, trans. from the Portuguese by K.C.S. Sotelino. New Directions, \$13.95 trade paper (144p) ISBN 978-0-8112-2656-1

This slim, intensely powerful novel portrays the coming-of-age of a young man named André who grew up on his family's farm in Brazil but has now fled to an unnamed city in an act of rebellion against his domineering, extremely religious, and constantly sermonizing father. André is also running from feelings for his sister, Ana, illicit desires that he expresses

with agonized passion in an almost phantasmagoric scene alone with Ana in the family's chapel. Numbing his agony with the help of generous amounts of wine, André languishes in a boarding house until his brother, Pedro, comes to bring him home. In prose tonally reminiscent of scripture, the novel explores the interior life of a character on the brink of an emotional and sexual awakening set against the tragic portrayal of a family on the verge of disintegration. Newly translated from a text originally published in 1975, this is an essential and unflinching work that combines torment and desire to arrive at an explosive examination of ancestry and the world we inherit. The novel's conclusion, taking place at a homecoming party for André, is breathtaking in its almost mythological expansiveness. (*Jan.*)

World, Chase Me Down

Andrew Hilleman. Penguin, \$16 trade paper (352p) ISBN 978-0-14-311147-4

In this lively first novel, Hilleman reimagines the life of a turn-of-the-20th-century kidnapper who committed the first "crime of the century." On Dec. 18, 1900, Pat Crowe and his accomplice, Billy Cavanaugh, abduct the 16-year-old son of Edward Cudahy, owner of a meat-packing plant in Omaha, Neb. During the abduction, Cudahy recognizes Pat, forcing the kidnapper to go on the lam—to Japan, then South Africa, where he fights with the Boer army. Arrested after more misadventures back in the U.S., Pat is put on trial, finding himself a political pawn of the haves and a folk hero to the have-nots. In flashbacks we see Pat's marriage to a woman named Hattie and what transpired with Cudahy to inspire the kidnapping. A framing device places Pat in the 1930s, where, among other things, he tries to make himself useful to detectives in Hopewell, N.J., investigating the Lindbergh baby kidnapping. Although the story is based on a variety of firsthand accounts, the author refuses to be bound by facts alone, and the result is a raucous example of narrative invention. Pat makes for an enthusiastic narrator, and he ends his story on a surprising note that affirms man's infinite capacity for resilience in the face of life's harsh vicissitudes. (*Jan.*)

The Girl in the Garden

Melanie Wallace. Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, \$25 (240p) ISBN 978-0-544-78466-6

Set in the mid-1970s at an unnamed beach enclave, Wallace's (*The Housekeeper*) powerful novel centers on June, a young girl who is abandoned at a coastal motel with her infant child, Luke, and taken in by the motel's aging owner, Mabel. Following a cast of characters who are all emotionally hindered by the traumas of the past, the narrative switches perspectives chapter by chapter. Mabel, who is trying to move on after the death of her husband, is ready to close up the motel for the off-season when June's plight changes her plans. Iris, Mabel's reclusive friend with dark secrets in her past, repays Mabel for a long-ago favor by sheltering June after the motel closes for the off-season. Duncan, Iris's lawyer, helps June settle in while also trying to maintain the tenuous relationship between Iris and her estranged daughter, Claire. Sam, a disfigured Vietnam vet who has abandoned his prewar life, takes up Claire's offer to drive her from New York back to her childhood home. Though it is a dim journey for most of the characters, the book focuses on the resiliency of the human spirit. Wallace makes use of long, unconfined sentences to build the many distinctive voices and has a knack for teasing out important details. This is a quiet, contemplative novel that builds slowly and leaves a lasting impact. *Agent: Claudia Cross, Folio Literary Management. (Jan.)*

Number 11

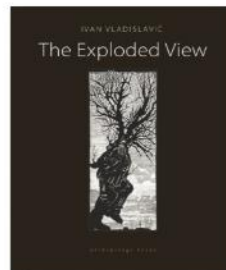
Jonathan Coe. Knopf, \$27.95 (352p) ISBN 978-0-451-49336-1

In this sequel to *The Winshaw Legacy*, two childhood friends, Rachel and Alison, struggle to maintain their friendship and come of age in an England overrun with the alienating forces of modernity: austerity, social media, and capitalism run amok. The book's point of view is widely, admirably panoramic, detailing Rachel's early obsession with the death of David

★ The Exploded View

Ivan Vladislavic. Archipelago (PRH, dist.), \$18 trade paper (200p) ISBN 978-0-914671-68-8

The latest from Vladislavic (*The Folly*), a South African known for his knotty, wry narratives of the post-Apartheid era, is a stimulating journey around Johannesburg and into the restless minds of its inhabitants. Comprising four sections, the book surveys the city and its environs through the eyes of four introspective men, assembling a collage-like portrait of a metropolis from its sewer system to its high-arts scene. A statistician testing new versions of a national census questionnaire becomes infatuated with one of the respondents, a television anchor living at an upscale housing development called Villa Toscana, which induces a "dreamlike blend of familiarity and displacement." Inspecting a shoddily constructed affordable apartment complex, a white sanitation engineer ponders the project's blend of optimism and futility, as well as the country's race relations, over a meal with black colleagues. A mixed-media artist slices up kitschy animal masks, "liberating the curio from its stifling form" while ignoring their provenance and the craftsmen who made them. Finally, a billboard erector's stalled journey home sets his mind racing. The title refers to those Ikea-like diagrams in which an object is exploded into its component parts; the characters enjoy no such coherent vision of how everything fits together in South Africa's fractured cultural landscape. A sense of unease often permeates these subtly linked tales, which skillfully lay out a disorienting blueprint of modern Johannesburg. (*Mar.*)



Kelly, Alison's mother's stint on a *Survivor*-style reality show, and an Oxford professor's search for a long-lost German film reel, as well as the travails of two ideologically mismatched detectives, a bloviating right-wing columnist, and a Romanian dog walker who may or may not transform into a giant spider. Rachel is later employed as a tutor for the children of a tax-dodging billionaire, Sir Gilbert Gunn, whose mammoth home expansion includes the excavation and construction of an 11-story basement. The disparate plots draw near one another but never fully meet in action or in theme; nevertheless, this is still an entertaining satire. (*Jan.*)

For the Most Beautiful: A Novel of the Trojan War

Emily Hauser. Pegasus (Norton, dist.), \$25.95 (400p) ISBN 978-1-68177-301-8

Instead of focusing exclusively on the

kings, princes, and gods who usually take the spotlight in Greek myth and history, Hauser turns the reader's attention to the women driving the story behind the scenes in this consuming debut novel, the first installment of the Golden Apple Trilogy. Newly married princess Briseis and reluctant priestess-to-be Krisayis are trying to navigate life and love in a society that gives them little agency when they find themselves in the midst of bloody battles, political prophesies, and treacherous gods after the onset of the Trojan War. In addition to the meddling gods who toy with their fortunes from the clouds, the formidable heroines must deal with both sides of the epic clash of kingdoms after being captured by—and eventually escaping—the Greek hero Achilles. Hauser's diverting take on this timeless tale delivers romance, action, and intrigue, with a certain emphasis on the

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romance. At times the prose explodes with floral extravagance, and the descriptions go to great lengths to ensure the reader knows how beautiful all the women are. But Hauser saves the day with well-paced plotting and engrossing character arcs. Briseis and Krisayis may not be (almost) invulnerable like Achilles, or as powerful as Zeus, but their bravery is more than enough for a fun and absorbing read. (Jan.)

Like Death

Guy de Maupassant, trans. from the French by Richard Howard. New York Review Books, \$15.95 trade paper (240p) ISBN 978-1-68137-032-3

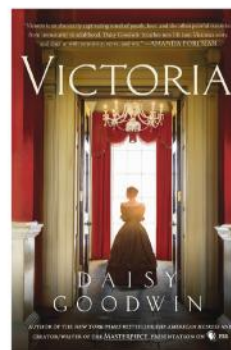
In this slim novel, Maupassant takes as his subject a long affair and its slow burn of love and jealousy. Feted artist Olivier Bertin, “the chosen painter of Parisiennes,” enjoyed a career of enduring success; “Fortune led him to the threshold of old age, petting and caressing him all the way.” The painter’s affair with Anne de Guilleroy, wife of a “Norman Squire,” begins when he first sees her dressed in

mourning, and he takes her as his muse, inviting her to sit for a painting. The novel charts the early euphoric stage of their love, when “he went to bed early, still vibrating with happiness,” through the long plateau of *amitié amoureuse*. However, as Anna and her daughter enter a party one night, the painter observes that Anna is “like a flower in full bloom” while her 18-year-old daughter, Annette, is “just blossoming.” Olivier becomes torn between his affection for the two, and his love becomes complicated, “feeling for the mother his revived passion and covering the daughter with an obscure tenderness.” Anna, aware of her lover’s increasing ambivalence, becomes tormented and sickened with jealousy of her daughter as well as becoming aware of her own aging, while Annette remains blissfully innocent and oblivious to the amorous drama. Though the novel has its quaint charms, its Freudian love triangle often feels heavy-handed and its characters flat. The novel builds to a dramatic yet predictable climax, lacking the freshness of Maupassant’s best work. (Jan.)

Victoria

Daisy Goodwin. St. Martin’s, \$26.99 (416p) ISBN 978-1-250-04546-1

Inspired by the diaries of Queen Victoria, British TV producer and author Goodwin (*The American Heiress*) mines a rich vein of royal history with the ascension of the impetuous and imperious 18-year-old—whose sole companions were dolls and a lapdog—to the English throne in 1837. “Your subjects are not dolls to be played with. To be a queen, you





have to be more than a little girl with a crown,” scolds a dying lady of the court whom Victoria has cruelly shamed. It is a heart-breaking lesson as the new monarch navi-

gates the palace and political intrigues under the guidance of her charming and lovelorn prime minister, Lord Melbourne.

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It's this relationship between the impressionable teen and her attentive middle-aged adviser that forms the irresistible emotional center of Goodwin's rich and passionate historical novel. "When you give your heart it will be without hesitation... but you cannot give it to me," Melbourne tells Victoria after she confesses that her prime minister is "the only companion I could ever desire." Rejected, Victoria begins the stormy and politically fraught courtship with her German cousin and future husband, Albert. That true-life ending, however, pales in comparison to Goodwin's timeless recounting of a young girl's aching first love. (*Dec.*)

The Flame Eater

Barbara Gaskell Denvil. Gaskell Publishing House, \$4.99 e-book (424p) ASIN B01B8SEC3S

This meticulously detailed romantic thriller portrays two flawed families in medieval England whose less moral members are victims of a murderer/arsonist. The families are united in 1485 when heiress Emeline Wrotham marries Nicholas Chatwyn, an earl's son and the

aloof, scarred younger brother of Emeline's true love, Peter, who was murdered. On their wedding night, the castle is engulfed in flames, and Nicholas is injured. Emeline and Nicholas, who is still recovering from extensive burns, depart for his cousin's Nottingham home while the castle is being repaired, but an outbreak of the plague sends them away, eventually to London. During their travels, the marriage is consummated, and they become true partners, in love and in adventures. Charismatic and witty, Nicholas is the heart of Denvil's novel; he works undercover for King Richard, rooting out political threats while maintaining the persona of a lazy drunkard to his disapproving father, whose favorite son is dead. Denvil's numerous minor characters are as intriguing as Nicholas, infusing vitality and never detracting from the story. Everyday 15th-century life is richly evoked—the clothing, food, travel, habits—providing substance to a winning narrative. Family dysfunction is deftly woven into a mélange of murder, politics, and romance, with a wickedly

realistic, often comical portrayal of kinship. (*BookLife*)

Mystery/Thriller

Outside the Law

Phillip Thompson. Brash, \$12.99 trade paper (260p) ISBN 978-1-94129899-2

Sheriff Colt Harper, as the title of Thompson's tough, fast-paced sequel to 2013's *Deep Blood* suggests, takes a Dirty Harry approach to law enforcement. In his first term as sheriff of Mississippi's rural Lowndes County, Colt has shot several people, and his office stands accused of using excessive violence. He's unsure whether he should run for reelection. At the scene of a convenience store robbery, a teenage boy, whom Colt places under arrest, tells him that somebody has been taking down drug dealers. When drug dealers start turning up dead, Colt suspects that a serial killer is at work. Molly McDonough, an ATF special agent, helps him investigate. Colt and Molly, who have each become disillusioned with their jobs,

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are seeking redemption for past mistakes. Meanwhile, a Memphis crime lord has ordered Hack, a hit man, to stop Colt. Hack, too, expresses a desire for redemption. Fueled by either remorse or revenge (or a combination of both), Thompson's convincing characters race toward an inevitable and explosive showdown. (Feb.)

★ The Heretic's Creed

Fiona Buckley. *Crème de la Crime*, \$28.99 (224p) ISBN 978-1-78029-091-1

Buckley's outstanding 14th Tudor mystery (after 2015's *A Perilous Alliance*) takes Ursula Blanchard, the intelligent, resourceful gentlewoman with a secret family connection to Elizabeth I, to an unofficial convent in a remote corner of the Yorkshire moors. An ostensible diplomatic visit to the court of the child king of Scotland, James VI, plays cover for Blanchard's investigation of Stonemoor House, where two men have gone on the queen's business before—and never returned. Buckley manages not only to imbue the would-be convent, reached in the midst of a snowstorm no less, with mystery and menace but also to dramatize how difficult it was for a woman to live an independent life in the 1570s, whether

she be Protestant widow or aristocratic Catholic spinster. It was a time when religious calling was hopelessly tangled with political loyalty, and people could easily mistake an herbal cure for a witch's potion. Still, there are no caricatured villains in this layered entry. Buckley draws even the most minor characters with subtlety and skill, making the dramatic conclusion that much more satisfying. (Jan.)

My Husband's Wife

Jane Corry. Viking/Dorman, \$26 (352p) ISBN 978-0-7352-2095-9

Newlywed London lawyer Lily Macdonald's best intentions land her in some of the worst predicaments in British author Corry's devilishly devious U.S. debut, in which almost no one proves totally trustworthy. For instance, Lily's generous impulse to befriend nine-year-old neighbor Carla Cavoletti, a bullied Italian immigrant with whose vulnerability she identifies, will eventually change the course of the lives of Lily and her artist husband, Ed, unfortunately not for the better. Similarly, Lily's drive to champion clients she views as underdogs, which stems in part from experiences with her autistic brother, blinds her to the fact

that some are dangerously manipulative liars who actually belong behind bars. But well-meaning as Lily is, readers will discover she isn't above hiding some rather unsavory secrets of her own. As twisty as little Carla's glossy curls, which inspire Ed's best work, this swiftly moving psychological thriller offers surprises right up to the finish. *Agent: Kate Horndern, Kate Horndern Literary Agency (U.K.). (Jan.)*

The Acid Test

Élmer Mendoza, trans. from the Spanish by Mark Fried. MacLehose, \$24.99 (240p) ISBN 978-1-68144-289-1

The murder of exotic dancer Mayra Cabral de Melo, found executed in a field outside the Mexican city of Culiacán, propels Mendoza's uneven sequel to 2016's *Silver Bullets*. When homicide detective Edgar "Lefty" Mendieta arrives to investigate the crime scene, he recognizes the victim. The two had met in Mazatlán, and their chemistry was unmistakable. When police arrive at Mayra's home to search for clues, they discover her roommate, dancer Yolanda Estrada, similarly murdered. The search for the perpetrator unfolds against a backdrop of the nightclub where Mayra worked, the city's drug wars, and a list of suspects that includes the rich, the influential, and the criminal. Mendoza conveys a clear sense of life in Culiacán through the violence of the competing cartels and a simmering expectation and acceptance of corruption. Lefty's honesty is the exception, not the rule. Most of the convoluted story unfolds through dialogue, but because the conversations lack quotation marks and attribution, they can be confusing. (Jan.)

Fever in the Dark:

A Jane Lawless Mystery

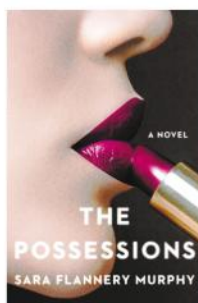
Ellen Hart. Minotaur, \$25.99 (320p) ISBN 978-1-250-08863-5

Series fans will best appreciate Hart's 24th Jane Lawless mystery set in Minneapolis (after 2015's *The Grave Soul*). Fiona, an old friend of Jane's, and her wife, Annie, start receiving unwanted attention when their marriage-proposal video goes viral a year after their wedding. The strain of being media darlings is further complicated by Fi getting creepy mash notes from an anonymous stranger. The one benefit to the exposure is that Annie's estranged

★ The Possessions

Sara Flannery Murphy. Harper, \$26.99 (368p) ISBN 978-0-06-245832-2

Behind the reassuringly bland facade of the Elysian Society, dramatic, distressing, and sometimes dangerous scenes play out daily as the bereaved seek to communicate with their departed loved ones, in Murphy's suspenseful supernatural-tinged debut, set on the gritty side of an unnamed U.S. city. The bridges between the living and the dead are people referred to as bodies, such as the young woman known as Eurydice (aka Edie), who after ingesting pills called lotuses can summon these spirits. The work perfectly suits emotionally guarded Edie, who apparently wants nothing more than to lose herself after a traumatic past, which only gradually emerges. But her carefully maintained shell starts to crack when she begins sessions with Patrick Braddock, an attractive lawyer, whose stunning wife, Sylvia, drowned 18 months earlier under suspicious circumstances. As Edie finds herself sexually drawn to Patrick and experiencing disturbing flashbacks, which seem to come from Sylvia, her efforts to investigate what happened that night at a lake outside the city—and its potential connection to a recently discovered Jane Doe—land her in very real jeopardy. Those ready to buy into the author's premise will be rewarded by a beautifully rendered, haunting page-turner. *Agent: Alice Whitwham, Alice Whitwham Agency. (Feb.)*



family attempt to reconnect with her. However, Annie has a secret from her past that involves her psychiatrist brother-in-law, Noah Foster, which she wants to keep secret. When Noah is murdered—he's poisoned and shot—Annie is a prime suspect. But so is Noah's mistress, who was also one of his patients. Jane does some sleuthing, but she's more focused on running her restaurant business than solving the central crime. A subplot involving Jane's ex, Julia, is a welcome distraction in an entry that lacks tension, despite a bomb scare and suspicious behavior by various supporting characters. *Agent: Deborah Schneider, Gelfman Schneider Literary. (Jan.)*

The Agent Runner

Simon Conway. Arcade, \$24.99 (312p)
ISBN 978-1-62872-599-5

In this hard-nosed thriller from Steel Dagger Award-winner Conway (*A Loyal Spy*), a British agent tries to redeem himself after a professional miscalculation. Set primarily in Pakistan, the plot focuses on MI6 handler Ed Malik's supervision of a spy code-named Nightingale, now in his fourth year of infiltrating Pakistan's ISI security service. Malik's bosses, however, blame him for not knowing about the American mission to steal into Pakistan and kill Osama bin Laden. Called home and eventually dismissed, Malik takes a job in a freight office and falls in love with the owner's daughter. Meanwhile, he's plotting his return to MI6, and eventually the opportunity arises. He flies to Lahore for one final mission, this time to take out Pakistan's legendary spymaster, Maj.-Gen. Javid Aslan Khan, known as the Hidden Hand. Conway, a former British army officer, excels at capturing the brutality and duplicity of the ways of espionage. Many of his scenes, particularly late in the story, are disturbingly realistic, with magnetism that plays out before your unblinking eyes. *(Jan.)*

Coco Butternut

Joe Lansdale. Subterranean, \$25 (88p)
ISBN 978-1-59606-803-2

Fans of Lansdale's East Texas crime fighting duo, Hap Collins and Leonard Pine, will devour this off-beat, macabre novella. When Jimmy Farmer, the owner of Oak Rest mortuary and pet cemetery, hires Hap and Leonard to retrieve the

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stolen mummified remains of his mother's beloved dog, Coco Butternut, things get weird fast. The kidnapper offers a ransom for the dead pet and meets our heroes at night to exchange the body for a bag of money. The transaction goes smoothly enough, but Leonard smells a rat when they're given a full-size coffin, which contains a human corpse tucked underneath the dog in a hidden compartment. When they race over to Farmer's house with their discovery, Hap and Leonard find Farmer bludgeoned to death. As they investigate, the boys learn that all is not as it appears at Oak Rest and that even more secrets might be lurking among the tombstones. Lansdale (*Honky Tonk Samurai*) is without peer when it comes to this kind of tale, and the result is an infectious, darkly funny slice of weirdness. *Agent: Danny Baror, Baror International. (Jan.)*

Where I Can See You

Larry D. Sweazy. Seventh Street, \$15.95 trade paper (255p) ISBN 978-1-63388-211-9

Set in what might be rural Michigan, this gripping if overwrought crime novel from Sweazy (*A Thousand Falling Crows*) focuses on a detective's personal obsessions. Homicide detective Hud Matthews, having left the Detroit police under dubious circumstances, has returned to the decaying lakeside resort town where he grew up and where his mother disappeared when he was just a boy. Besides joining the overwhelmed local police to solve a baffling series of murders, Hud pokes at his mother's cold case, to the residents' dismay. He can't help himself, as the action staggers relentlessly onward, revealing the little town's secrets. What, for example, is Hud supposed to think when he discovers a photograph of his mother in the company of his best friend's father, his best friend being the sheriff who just hired him? Set in autumn, the story is overloaded with images of death and despair, but it will intrigue readers willing to grope through the gloom. *Agent: Cherry Weiner, Cherry Weiner Literary Agency. (Jan.)*

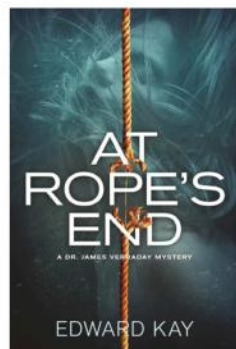
At Rope's End:

A Dr. James Verraday Mystery

Edward Kay. Crooked Lane, \$25.99 (304) ISBN 978-1-68331-000-6

Screenwriter Kay's intriguing mystery

debut blends academia and law enforcement in what looks to be a promising marriage made in the name of crime. Det. Constance Maclean of the Seattle PD is convinced that the murder of a beautiful young woman, whose body was fished out of a cranberry bog, is the work of a serial killer. Clues are hard to come by, and because she's bucking a senior officer who doesn't put any stock in her hunches, Maclean decides to circumvent department policy. Turning to forensic psychologist James Verraday, a university professor, as a consultant is a definite breach of protocol, but it sets the stage for an enduring partnership. Both characters are single. Both have complicated pasts and even more com-



plicated presents, and both share similar political ideologies, though Verraday is more liberal. Aside from rather lengthy passages expounding on topics such as criminal profiling and bipolarism, Kay spins a good whodunit with a juicy bonus twist at the end. *(Jan.)*

Fickle

Peter Manus. Diversion, \$16.99 trade paper (376p) ISBN 978-1-62681-842-2

Law school professor Manus's inventive if convoluted first novel, told in a series of blog entries written by a woman calling herself L.G. Fickel and her followers, pays homage to the authors, books, films, and Hollywood stars of noir. On a Boston subway platform one cold winter evening, a man bumps by Fickel and falls in front of an oncoming train to a gruesome death. Det. Sgt. Tyler Malloy, a cop who shows up at the scene and later does follow-up, becomes Burly-Bear in Fickel's blog. Unlikely connections between the victim, initially called Mr. Suicide, and Fickel slowly unfold. Meanwhile, Fickel's regular bloggers, who comment on each new revelation and offer advice, are joined by sinister ones such as Full Frontal. The bloggers aren't sure whether Fickel's tale is fact or fiction, though they do their best to find out. The blog format can get tire-

some, but noir fans should enjoy the twists and turns that echo such genre classics as *Double Indemnity* and *The Asphalt Jungle. (Jan.)*

Quick off the Mark:

An Alex Quick Mystery

Susan Moody. Severn, \$29.99 (256p) ISBN 978-0-7278-8658-3

In Moody's so-so sequel to 2016's *Quick and the Dead*, art historian Alexandra Quick, who was once the youngest detective chief inspector in England, until she left the force after losing an unborn child and her husband ran off with his long-time mistress, resumes police work to help Dimsie Drayton, a childhood friend. Dimsie begs Alex to investigate the murder of her brother, Tristan Huber, whose mutilated body was found in a field outside the university town of Longbury, the word *cheat* carved into his chest. Three more murders follow that may be related to Tristan's. Alex's efforts to find links among the murders—conducted while she tries to remedy her non-existent love life and meet a fast-approaching publication deadline for her first book—bring her in contact with rodeo workers, possible human traffickers, and businessmen who may have ties to a Hong Kong triad gang. A compelling heroine makes up only in part for a narrative loaded with too many characters and subplots. *(Jan.)*

Because You're Mine

Colleen Coble. Thomas Nelson, \$12.99 trade paper (336p) ISBN 978-0-7180-8380-9

Fans of Coble's romantic suspense novels (*The Inn at Ocean's Edge*, etc.), as well as those who enjoy Irish music, will appreciate this sweet standalone's backstage view of Ceol, a four-woman Celtic band, founded by Alanna Connolly, a beautiful red-haired Irish singer. When Alanna's beloved husband, Liam, dies in a car bombing while on tour in Charleston, S.C., Alanna, who's pregnant, is determined to continue Ceol. To escape her powerful and manipulative father-in-law, who wants to take Liam's child from her, Alanna makes what amounts to a pact with the devil. Despite a slew of clues and warnings, she decides to marry Barry Kavanaugh, the band's obsessive manager, in order to gain U.S. citizenship. Things

start to go wrong once Alanna arrives at Barry's creepy old family mansion, with its locked rooms, a portrait of a woman who looks like Alanna, a lake complete with an alligator, and a traumatized dog. No need to worry about Alanna, though; love and Christian faith ensure a happy ending. *Agent: Karen Solem, Spencerhill Associates. (Jan.)*

Mystery in the Channel

Freeman Wills Crofts. *Poisoned Pen*, \$12.95 trade paper (278p) ISBN 978-1-4642-0671-9

At the start of Crofts's solid seventh procedural featuring Scotland Yard's Inspector French, first published in 1931 (after *Sir John Magill's Last Journey*), a steamship encounters a yacht adrift in the English Channel. Aboard the smaller boat are the corpses of two men, who were partners in Moxon's General Securities, an investment firm. The Sussex County Constabulary calls on French to investigate. The grim find comes after the firm declared a deficit of about £8 million, causing a panic on the British Stock Exchange. A third partner and the accountant have gone missing as well. French methodically evaluates means, motive, opportunity, and the proffered alibis, after concluding that the killer was no stranger to his victims. Modern readers may find this entry in the British Library Classics series a bit dry, but it's one of Crofts's better efforts, redeemed by touches of humor (e.g., French's greatest friendship on the force "survived perhaps the greatest test which could have been imposed on it, a walking tour in the Scottish highlands lasting for ten days"). *(Jan.)*

Graveyard Shift:

A Pepper Martin Mystery

Casey Daniels. *Severn*, \$28.99 (224p) ISBN 978-0-7278-8657-6

In Daniels's unimpressive 10th paranormal Pepper Martin mystery (after 2012's *Supernatural Born Killers*), the Cleveland cemetery community relations manager has to deal with the demands of her boss, Ella Silverman; her lover, cop Quinn Harrison; and the spirit of lawman Eliot Ness. Pepper is able to see and talk with denizens of a very active spirit world, though Ness appears as only a poorly formed swirl of sparkles. Ness, who wants

to be whole, asks Pepper to steal his ashes from Dean McClure, the memorabilia collector who has them. The first shock comes when Ella for no good reason attempts to drive her car into Pepper, who's standing by Ness's memorial stone. A greater shock comes with Pepper's discovery of McClure's murdered body in his home. Then Quinn starts to act strangely, as does Pepper's mother, Barb. Pepper finds herself tussling psychically with a very tough spirit and an old enemy of Ness's who has his own plans. Daniels generates few laughs and fewer chills in this routine cozy. *Agent: Gail Fortune, Talbot Fortune Agency. (Jan.)*

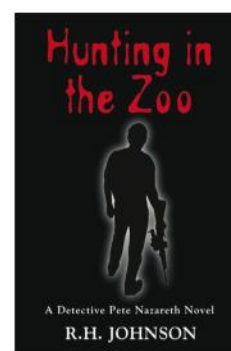
Hunting in the Zoo:

A Detective Pete Nazareth Novel

R.H. Johnson. *Hampton, Westbrook*, \$17.95 trade paper (264p) ISBN 978-1-5323-0214-5

Johnson's suspenseful third novel featuring Det. Pete Nazareth of the NYPD (after *A Measure of Revenge*) places presidential candidate Archer Grande, who boasts that he could "stroll naked down Fifth Avenue, and my supporters would

still vote for me," in the crosshairs of an assassin. Nazareth is half of a team dubbed the Dynamic Duo, after he and fellow detective Tara Gimble amassed an impressive record for "not only closing the



toughest cases but also for putting themselves in harm's way again and again to get the job done right." New York City's mayor taps the pair to go after Stone Jackson, an

expert sniper who has begun taking out child molesters, starting with the Little League coach who abused him. As Nazareth and Gimble search for Jackson, the killer ups the ante after concluding that Grande is a dangerous demagogue. Unexpected developments ratchet up the tension en route to a dramatic climax.

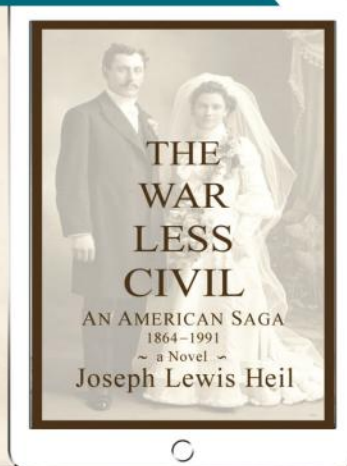
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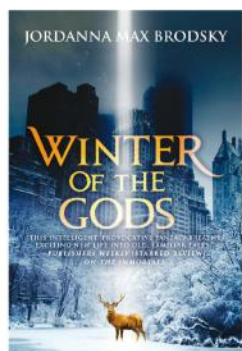
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SF/Fantasy/Horror

★ Winter of the Gods

Jordanna Max Brodsky. Orbit, \$26 (480p)
ISBN 978-0-316-38591-6

In this stellar sequel to 2016's *The Immortals*, former Olympian goddess Artemis, now living in New York City as Selene DiSilva, is drawn into another murder investigation. This one involves members of her own family, who are being systematically hunted and sacrificed as part of a mysterious cult's deadly agenda.



Selene and her boyfriend, mortal classicist Theo Schultz, have to rally her estranged siblings, including Apollo and Hephaestus, before they all

fall prey to a group capable of using the weapons of the gods. Brodsky's approach to urban fantasy is intelligent, versatile, and esoteric; she draws on mythology,

religion, and archaeoastronomy to construct a believably complex framework for the much-diminished gods and their world, where contradictory stories somehow fit together. New York City stands out as a character in its own right, its landmarks and quirks strengthening the narrative that twists and turns through public and private spaces. This is a satisfying adventure that remains true to the spirit of the original myths while granting them several millennia of weight, consequence, and even regret.

Agent: Jennifer Joel, ICM Partners. (Feb.)

Dusk or Dark or Dawn or Day

Seanan McGuire. Tor.com, \$15.99 trade paper (192p) ISBN 978-0-7653-9142-1

Prolific Hugo-winner and bestseller McGuire (*Once Broken Faith*) displays her typical mix of endearing characters inside a world constructed with thoughtfully deployed speculative elements in this standalone meditation on ghosts and time. After accidentally dying in the wake of her big sister's suicide, native Kentuckian Jenna decides that she must earn the right to pass on. Working at a Manhattan suicide prevention hotline and becoming a regular at a quirky diner that

is the haunt of ghosts and witches, Jenna exists in the world without feeling like she has a life. But when the ghosts of New York, many of whom are her friends and acquaintances, begin to disappear, she must brazenly overcome her fear of witches and reluctance to form attachments in order to defend the home she left and the one she found only after she died. This tightly paced adventure will win hearts with a charming protagonist and a well-earned ending. (Jan.)

The Unknown Collaborator

Victor Joly, trans. from the French by Brian Stableford. Snuggly, \$14 trade paper (198p) ISBN 978-1-943813-23-0

Belgian writer Joly (1807–1870) is principally known for his retellings of Belgian history and legend. This collection, the last he assembled before his death, adds a touch of the supernatural. The Faustian “The Unknown Collaborator” describes Satan as a key influence on many of humanity's greatest and most beautiful works of art and architecture, an unusual motif for the time period, especially because the author and the work remain staunchly Christian. “The End of a Story of Which the Beginning Is Familiar” purports to give the further history of the legendary seven-league boots, and it is an early environmentalist fantasy in its portrayal of leagues of devils simultaneously keeping the earth spinning on a literal axis and plotting ways to make the machine stop. Unfortunately, despite his general competence and well-researched history, Joly simply does not have the depth, breadth, or interest to make him of interest to anyone but academics. (Jan.)

★ Neither Here Nor There

Cat Rambo. Hydra, \$17.95 trade paper (288p) ISBN 978-0-9890828-7-7

This double collection showcases Rambo's versatility within the fantasy genre. In the “Neither Here” half, tales set in her existing worlds of Tabat (“How Dogs Came to the New Continent”) and Serendib (“The Subtler Art”) rub shoulders with new worlds of magic and mystery. “Nor There” displays her skill at seeing our world through different lenses, with locations including steampunk London (“Clockwork Fairies”) and urban

★ Nine of Stars: A Wildlands Novel

Laura Bickle. Harper Voyager, \$7.99 trade paper (384p) ISBN 978-0-06-243766-2

Petra Dee, the intrepid geologist/chemist heroine of Bickle's Dark Alchemy e-book series, makes her print debut (alongside spirit-coyote companion Sig) in this gripping weird west adventure. The ghost of

Skinflint Jack has risen to haunt Yellowstone National Park's wolves, and it's up to Petra to end his violence—with some help from Gabe, the love of her life, who up until recently was mortal. But meddling from the local sheriff and an untimely leukemia diagnosis throw all of Petra's well-laid plans into jeopardy. Readers new to Bickle's world will have no difficulty following the plot; the first few chapters are exposition-heavy, but Bickle does an excellent job of letting her characters speak for themselves and blending realistic, grounded conflicts with her supernatural plot. It's particularly pleasant to see Petra's day job as a scientist have real value in resolving fantastical conflicts. Also of note is Bickle's respectful treatment of Native American spirituality amid the otherwise European notions of alchemy that make up the backbone of the magic system in the central setting of Temperance, Wyo. The book ends with a cliff-hanger that will make fans and newcomers alike sit up and demand a sequel. Bickle is well on her way to establishing her work as a cornerstone of her genre. Agent: Becca Stumpf, Prospect. (Dec.)



fantasy Seattle (“The Wizards of West Seattle”). Each story provides a well-realized insight into the characters or society



it portrays and gives the reader a taste of what the larger world contains. Some characters, such as automaton Pinkerton detective Artemus West and psychic Elspeth Sorehs,

appear in multiple stories, as do retired assassin the Dark and her spouse, the mage Tericatus, providing familiarity when they reappear without detracting from the unique settings of the stories that are placed in between. Of particular interest to both existing and new fans are the afternotes, which give insight both into the creation process and the connections to longer works by Rambo (*Beasts of Tabat*) and others. (Dec.)

Last Year

Robert Charles Wilson. Tor, \$27.99 (352p)
ISBN 978-0-7653-3263-9

The 21st-century time travelers who came to 1870s America didn't just reveal themselves to be from the future; they also built the City of Futurity in the Midwest to give tourists—at least those willing to pay the extremely expensive ticket price—a vague look at the world to come. Jesse Cullum is a “native” City employee, born in the 19th century, who knows he's got a good deal working security and means to keep it, especially while supporting his sister, Phoebe. Knowing the future people's oddities well, he's not surprised by the forthright and occasionally crude behavior (by 19th-century standards) of his new security partner, Elizabeth DePaul. But he is surprised when he falls in love with her, and shocked when someone arms the oppressed groups of the 19th century with future knowledge and weaponry. Wilson (*The Affinities*) flips the traditional time-travel genre on its head with an engaging protagonist who adapts the best of both worlds into rugged, brainy secret-busting resourcefulness, forging talents superior to 21st-century technology. Wilson's

turnabout effectively turns both past and present into “another country” and may just lure readers tired of temporal clichés back into the time-travel fold. *Agent: Caitlin Blasdel, Liza Dawson Associates. (Dec.)*

Winter Halo

Keri Arthur. Signet Select, \$7.99 mass market (368p) ISBN 978-0-451-47351-6

Bestseller Arthur continues the paranormal near-future adventures of humanoid supersoldier Tiger with this enjoyable sequel to *City of Light*. Since the end of the apocalyptic war between humans and paranormal invaders—shifters, vampires, demons, wraiths—Tiger has been trying to lie low among the survivors at Central City. But when someone starts kidnapping children, she can't ignore it. Pharmaceuticals company Winter Halo seems to be involved in the crime, and now Tiger is teaming up with ranger Jonas to infiltrate the company and find out what's really going on. Before long, they're dealing with ghosts, vampires, deadly rifts in space-time, and a secretive research project that could radically reshape the world. Arthur's sequel

delivers solid helpings of danger and suspense, seasoned with romance. Fans of her *Dark Angels* and *Souls of Fire* paranormal series will enjoy this straightforward fantasy thriller. (Dec.)

Season of Spells

Sylvia Izzo Hunter. Ace, \$15 trade paper (464p) ISBN 978-0-425-27247-3

The third chapter of Hunter's *Noctic Magicae* fantasy series (after *The Midnight Queen*) launches readers into fresh intrigue and magic in an alternate 19th-century London. After working to develop their magical abilities at the University of Din Edin, Britain's Princess Royal Sophie and her husband, Gray Marshall, are returning to London and escorting Lucia MacNeill, the heiress of Alba—soon to be Sophie's sister-in-law—for her first meeting with her betrothed, 17-year-old Prince Roland, and the rest of the royal family. After months of correspondence, forthright Lucia and dreamer Roland know they have little in common. Sophie hopes that she can change that by having them help her reopen the long-shuttered women's college at Oxford, a decidedly unpopular plan with orthodox scholars who insist

★ New Worlds, Old Ways: Speculative Tales from the Caribbean

Edited by Karen Lord. Peekash, \$17.95 trade paper (150p) ISBN 978-1-61775-526-2

The Caribbean has a powerful, modern tradition of fantastic literature that's on full display in this anthology of original fiction by writers from Barbados, Trinidad and Tobago, and Bermuda. Some stories are science fiction and some fantasy, but all are firmly rooted in the rich folk tradition of the islands. Among the best stories—and all of the included pieces are worth reading—are Tammi Browne-Bannister's “Once in a Blood Moon,” a selkie tale with an unsettling Caribbean twist; Brandon O'Brien's “Fallenangel.dll,” which begs for comparison with the underrated science fiction film *Chappie*; Richard B. Lynch's “Water Under the Bridge,” the powerful story of a girl's magical revenge against her abuser; Elizabeth J. Jones's “The Ceremony,” in which a seemingly helpless woman revolts against her family's generations-long magical tradition; and H. K. Williams's “Cascadura,” a wonderful concatenation of Trinidadian folklore, cataclysmic disaster tale, and far-future science fiction. None of these writers is likely to be familiar to American audiences, but all are worth getting to know. Readers who love the writing of Nalo Hopkinson, Tobias S. Buckell, and Lord herself will savor this volume. (Dec.)



women can't learn to use magic responsibly. Complications ensue when the rebels responsible for an attempt on King Henry's life somehow escape from prison and can't be found. After two previous books, Hunter's characters and setting feel fully formed, and the story moves briskly through its twists and turns. This compelling blend of fantasy, intrigue, and Regency romance adds up to a thoroughly satisfying adventure. (Dec.)

Tartarus

Eric Andrews-Katz. *Bold Strokes*, \$18.95 trade paper (236p) ISBN 978-1-62639-746-0

Andrews-Katz (*Balls and Chain*) packs his first full-length fantasy solidly with Greek mythology, but it causes a little stylistic whiplash as he jumps from grandiose but bland reimaginings of ancient myth to snarky dating drama to hackneyed mentoring of magic powers while on a dangerous but highly structured quest. Overzealous oil drilling releases Echidna, Mother of Monsters, from her undersea prison into the Pacific Northwest. Her desire for revenge on the Olympians who imprisoned her leads her to target gallery owner Annelise Petrakis and her artistic twin, Adrian, who are unaware of being of the lineage of Apollo and Artemis until a series of erotic dreams and a connection to older artist Zack Wilson help Adrian come into his own as a healer in order to save his sister. Andrews-Katz's experience writing gay romance comes through in hot scenes between Zack and Adrian, and in the flow of the friendships in his sympathetic depictions of both teasing and support in the queer community. But too much time is spent on Echidna's backstory before she's downgraded to a generic monster in the long and uninspired fight scenes of the climax. (Dec.)

The Soul Mender

R.S. Dabney. *Red Pen Warriors*, \$14.99 trade paper (380p) ISBN 978-0-692-47201-9

A familiar science fiction theme—a parallel reality populated by alter egos of the inhabitants of our own—gets a fresh spin in this intriguing variant of a dark fantasy. Since childhood, Riley Dale, an environmental scientist living in Boulder, Colo., has been plagued by visions. Then she unexpectedly crosses over into the world of her imaginings with the help of a

magic ring left to her by her grandmother. Partnering with Oz, a drug-addicted ne'er-do-well who represents the other half of her divided soul, and protector Zachary Stone, who's a serial killer in her own world, Riley travels cross-country to Los Angeles, the terrorist-bombed capital of this alternate U.S., to learn the crucial role she must play in events rocking the parallel world. Dabney's writing is crisp and confident, and her characters—including both of their personalities—are well-developed. She introduces more subplots than can be resolved by the novel's end, making this a promising start for a projected trilogy. (BookLife)

Romance/Erotica

Midnight Obsession

Melinda Leigh. *Montlake Romance*, \$12.95 trade paper (336p) ISBN 978-1-5039-3925-7

Leigh's fourth Midnight contemporary romantic thriller (after *Midnight Betrayal*) will excite readers with its puzzling mysteries and toe-curling romance. In Philadelphia, museum curator Louisa Hancock and sports bar owner Conor Sullivan hope that life is returning to normal after a nightmarish couple of months. Then Louisa's father, a scholar of Viking history, is kidnapped after he receives a package containing a ninth-century sword, a confusing thank-you note, and a gruesome photograph of a ritual killing. And Conor is targeted by a vengeful gang when he protects Jordan, a troublesome teenager. Conor wants nothing more than to keep Louisa out of danger; Louisa is headstrong and smart, and she convinces Conor that they work best together. Despite police investigations, the violence escalates. A deadly showdown requires Conor to use all of his fighting talent, and Louisa must dig deep into her own skills to save all that is important to her. The intimacy between the couple, seamless inclusion of Norse mythology, precise storytelling, windows into the killer's mind, and surprise ending all heighten the enjoyment. The novel is easily read as a standalone, but returning readers will get more out of it. *Agent: Jill Marsal, Marsal Lyon Literary.* (Jan.)

Intended for Bristol

L.P. Dover. *Loveswept*, \$3.99 e-book (248p) ISBN 978-1-101-96791-1

Dover packs an emotional punch with her third contemporary Second Chances sports romance (after *Defending Hayden*), set in Charlotte, N.C. Pro football player Jaxon "Jax" Reed is adamant about not getting entangled in emotional relationships. Then he falls hard for interior designer Bristol Thomas, not realizing that she's the sister of his most-hated teammate. After a cheating football player breaks her heart, the last thing Bristol wants is a relationship with a pro athlete, so Jax hires her to decorate his house as a way of getting closer to her. Pressures mount on all sides: Jax's dying mother is thrilled that her commitment-phobic son has finally met his match, and a vicious woman with whom he had a one-night stand threatens to ruin the nascent relationship. At first, Jax is extremely hard to like; he's the stereotypical jerk athlete who sleeps with anything in a skirt and thinks he's God's gift to women. But his vulnerability soon begins to show, particularly with his love for his mother and his relationship with Bristol. Bristol is both sassy and sweet, and easy to relate to. Deft plotting and a hair-raising finale elevate this pulse-pounding tale. *Agent: Marisa Corvisiero, Corvisiero Literary.* (Dec.)

Idlewild

Jude Sierra. *Interlude*, \$16.99 trade paper (250p) ISBN 978-1-945053-07-8

Sierra (*What It Takes*) combines food, business, and love in this tender contemporary set in Detroit. As Asher begins to emerge from grief over his husband's death, he realizes how badly he's neglected the restaurant that was their shared dream and decides that a reboot is in order. When he's ready to reopen, his all-new staff includes Tyler, a young man with charisma, charm, and the kind of head for business that Asher desperately needs. There are plenty of reasons for them to avoid the attraction between them, but one by one those reasons drop away, and the two fall into bed and into love. As their relationship develops, Asher and Tyler must navigate their very different experiences and expectations to avoid putting their hearts and possibly the entire restaurant at risk of implosion. Readers

who appreciate that Tyler's nuanced personality defies black gay stereotypes may be uncomfortable seeing those same stereotypes embodied by his tough, aggressive, emotionally walled-off ex-boyfriend Malik. And unfortunately, every relationship problem in the book comes down to the same lack of honest communication. Though narrow in scope (largely due to Asher's self-imposed isolation), the romance is straightforward, sweet, and generally entertaining. (Dec.)

No Small Parts

Ally Blue. Riptide, \$16.99 trade paper (200p) ISBN 978-1-62649-502-9

A romance that's about friendship as much as love is sure to charm readers in the sweet 16th standalone contemporary set in Bluewater Bay, Wash. (after *Bluewater Blues*). Nathaniel "Wolfman" Horn is stretched thin by working a fishing boat with his uncle; taking care of his injured, pill-addicted father; and holding down a small role in his hometown's one economic bright spot: the popular TV show *Wolf's Landing*. Rafael "Hollywood" Cortez is determined to become a top film director and knows that Nat is the perfect lead for his indie film project. The sweet, sensitive chemistry between the two blossoms as they navigate the early days of their relationship, struggling to juggle the future's uncertainty and Nat's natural reticence. Even as they both find rewarding success and opportunity in their careers, Nat must contend with the reality of his father's illness and refusal to accept that bisexual Nat has chosen to pursue love with a man. Delivered with a light touch and a few sultry sex scenes, this is sure to be a soothing escape for fans of the genre. (Dec.)

When All the Girls Have Gone

Jayne Ann Krentz. Berkley, \$27 (352p) hardcover, ISBN 978-0-399-17449-0

With this slow-paced book, Krentz (*Secret Sisters*) launches a romantic suspense series set in Seattle, where Max Cutler, a former profiler turned PI, moved to start his life over after burning out on the job. While investigating the mysterious death of Louise Flint, who belonged to a women's investment club, he encounters Charlotte Sawyer, whose stepsister,

Jocelyn, another investor, also disappeared. Working together, they hope to both find Jocelyn and identify the culprit behind a decade-long rape and killing spree that started with a violent assault on Jocelyn while she was in college. The suspense story suffers from Krentz spending too much text introducing investment-club members in lieu of building ties between Charlotte and Max. It's also a setup for future books featuring Max's foster brothers, all of whom have a collective score to settle. Fortunately, the suspense picks up when Max and Charlotte realize they need to trust each other and work in close proximity to bring down the privileged villain. (Dec.)

The Farther He Runs

Lynda Aicher. Loveswept, \$4.99 e-book (242p) ISBN 978-0-425-28514-5

Aicher delivers an emotionally nuanced and poignant tale in her third Kick contemporary (after *The Deeper He Hurts*). Tanner Dorsey and Finn Kelley became as close as brothers while on special-ops duty in the Marine Corps. Tanner, still on active duty, is just back from a grueling top-secret mission when he finds out a rafting accident has killed his friend Chris, a fellow Marine and partner in their extreme-sports business, Adrenaline Kick Adventures. In that same accident, Finn was seriously injured and is struggling to recover both mentally and physically—and Tanner decides he's just the guy to help his friend do that on his five-week leave in Oregon. As Finn heals, neither man wants to destroy their long-cherished friendship, but the explosive sexual chemistry they share is unavoidable. Can they give in to the love and lust they share, or is *happily ever after* just a collection of empty words? Aicher's stoic, honorable Marines are exquisitely drawn, flaws and all. Deft plotting helps the author explore the very real struggles of two men in the post—"don't ask, don't tell" military, and a subplot of loss adds a painful but necessary layer to the story. This is an emotion-packed, satisfying read. (Dec.)

★ One Life to Lose

Kris Ripper. Riptide, \$17.99 trade paper (302p) ISBN 978-1-62649-440-4

Love, BDSM, films, and murder take center stage in this moving and sus-

penseful erotic romance, the fourth in Ripper's *Queers of La Vista* contemporary series (after *The Queer and the Restless*). Cameron Rheingold runs an independent movie theater in present-day fictional La Vista, Calif. Though he's part of the local LGBTQ community, he largely keeps to the fringes until he meets Josh and Keith, who have just opened a queer-youth center in town—and who begin to show a romantic interest in Cameron. Meanwhile, a serial murderer, whose attacks began in the previous books, con-



tinues to target the local queer population. As Cameron tries to determine how he fits into Josh and Keith's romantic and business partnership, the diverse and

thoughtfully crafted community struggles to find comfort and safety. The various plot threads are expertly woven together, with particularly strong attention given to establishing healthy kink relationships and to the effects of post-traumatic stress. Erotic-romance readers and series fans will be thrilled by this sweet and often intense exploration. (Dec.)

Make It Hurt

Jackie Ashenden. Loveswept, \$3.99 e-book (211p) ISBN 978-0-425-28627-2

Nora Sutcliffe may not be every man's dream woman, but in Ashenden's powerful contemporary romance she is biker Smith's ideal. Eight years ago she was a demure Houston debutante who flirted with danger when she enticed Smith, a "trailer-park-trash" laborer, to come down off his ladder and get to know her better. A lot has changed since their brief summer romance. Now Nora's a professional fugitive-recovery agent who turns Smith on because there's nothing he likes better than "a chick with a gun." She's popped back into his life determined to take at least one prisoner—Smith's bail bond-skipping right-hand man—and deliver him to justice. Smith refuses to turn him over, and Nora chooses principle and righteousness, even if it means giving

up on romance with Smith. The second-tier characters lack dimension, but the plot moves along apace, and the mutual attraction between Smith and Nora is convincingly fiery. (*Dec.*)

★ Rules of Contact

Jaci Burton. Berkley, \$16 trade paper (352p) ISBN 978-0-425-27682-2

Burton's 12th Play-by-Play contemporary sports romance (after *Unexpected Rush*) is a captivating and satisfying mix of physical and emotional passions. Flynn Cassidy spends his days as a defensive end for the San Francisco Sabers and his nights at his new restaurant, Ninety-Two (named for his jersey number). He's tired of women using him to get their 15 minutes of fame and wants to fall in love with someone who loves him for himself. Amelia Lawrence, head chef at Ninety-Two, has no interest in the spotlight; she's perfectly content to turn out delicious dishes and guard her heart after a messy divorce from a man who didn't trust her and destroyed her self-confidence. The powerful chemistry between Amelia and Flynn leads to a red-hot romance, punctuated by sweet moments with Flynn's sports-minded family. But



when a misunderstanding causes Flynn to question Amelia's motives in dating him, their baggage threatens their love. Burton imbues her hero and heroine

with vulnerabilities that immediately endear them to readers, and the deft characterization, snappy dialogue, and sizzling love scenes will keep the pages turning. This may be Burton's best book yet. *Agent: Kimberly Whalen, Trident Media Group.* (*Dec.*)

The Blue Ribbon

Katherine Marlowe. Less Than Three, \$5.99 e-book (213p) ISBN 978-1-62004-865-8

Marlowe (*The Valet and the Stable Groom*) brings together many beloved tropes of historical adventure—the ghost story, the lost heir, the penniless orphan—in this

Pimpernel-tinged tale. Dr. Theo Aylmer is an impoverished and rather self-centered young lecturer at Cambridge in the unsettled days following the Jacobite Rebellion. He's called to his Cornish birthplace upon the illness of his father, an innkeeper, who dies before Theo can reach him. To add insult to injury, Theo is robbed en route by an exceptionally charming highwayman and is stuck in Cornwall until he can raise funds to return to Cambridge. The inn is derelict, the local earl is a murderous scoundrel, and Theo is inept. But hope, of more than one kind, blossoms when the highwayman, Philip, appears at the kitchen door with a stock of smuggled French brandy. Don't look for historical verisimilitude here—those details are often rather sketchy. The appeal is in the swashbuckling and the sweet romance, all grumbles and insouciance, between two mismatched young men. (*Dec.*)

Off the Rails

Jill Sorenson. Loveswept, \$3.99 e-book (264p) ISBN 978-1-101-96514-6

In this poignant, action-packed romantic thriller, Sorenson (*Against the Wall*) emphasizes the perils of illegal border crossing while matching a feisty, faithful maid with a cynical former U.S. Customs and Border agent. Special Agent Ian Foster never forgot Maria Santos, whom he'd found in the desert barely alive after being raped and beaten. But as soon as she recovered sufficiently from her injuries, the U.S. deported her back to Mexico. Maria has fantasized about Ian for four years, so when he approaches her to help him locate the daughter of a cartel member she'd delivered a letter to, she agrees. After he has to break cover to protect Maria, Ian's career is on the line, and he's given strict orders not to get personally involved with her, but the intensity of his desire for her makes this difficult. With drug cartels and shady cops on both sides of the border chasing them, Ian will risk all to save the woman he loves and secure the future they both want. Unexpected depths add originality to otherwise stereotypical characters. Sorenson pulls off multiple points of view flawlessly, giving readers insight from numerous locations while maintaining a few surprises. (*Dec.*)

The Dare and the Doctor

Kate Noble. Pocket, \$7.99 mass market (384p) ISBN 978-1-4767-4940-2

In Noble's insipid third Winner Takes All Regency romance (after *The Lie and the Lady*), Rhys Gray and Margaret Babcock start out as correspondents discussing academic topics and become friends bonding over common intellectual interests. When Margaret accepts an invitation from Rhys to visit London, love is inevitable, but the bland courtship is riddled with clichés. Margaret, smart but awkward in polite society, and Rhys, saddled with an inconvenient engagement arranged by his mother, embody familiar romance fare. The letters are entertaining and show how well the hero and heroine get along, but once they stop writing, their interactions are wooden and unimaginative. The obstacles keeping Rhys and Margaret apart are so contrived and flimsy that it's a relief when Rhys finally stops pouting and ends the plodding drama. The supporting cast—their friends and family—show some potential, but they are not fully developed and primarily act as cardboard props on the sidelines. Noble clearly did considerable research into botany and medicine; that time could have been better spent on plot, pacing, and character development. There's promise, but this romance fails to deliver. *Agent: Annelise Roby, Jane Rotrosen.* (*Dec.*)

Shut Up and Kiss Me

Jessica Lemmon. Loveswept, \$2.99 e-book (212p) ISBN 978-1-101-88471-3

Lemmon's sweet contemporary romance about a couple of college kids in the small Midwestern town of Ridgeway might be the perfect confectionary amuse-bouche for a dreary winter afternoon. Caden Wilson has been dubbed a "silver-tongued fox" and is on the fast track to law school. Then he crashes his car headlong into a fire hydrant during a street race, and his injuries leave him with a debilitating speech impairment. The road to recovery stalls when the only healer he'll even let near him is his friend Tasha Montgomery, a physical therapy student. There's every reason to doubt his sincerity about regaining perfect speech, as their "therapy" sessions consist of her doing homework while he restores a new automotive toy. One thing leads sweetly but predictably to another as she

convinces him that certain intimate mouth and tongue exercises will help reduce his stutter. In Lemmon's story, nary a problem exists that can't be soothed in short order. The tale is insubstantial and lands somewhere between sweet and saccharine, but fans of fluff will enjoy it. (Dec.)

Comics

Kindred

Octavia Butler, Damian Duffy, and John Jennings. Abrams ComicArts, \$24.95 (240p) ISBN 978-1-4197-0947-0

Dana, an African-American woman in the 1970s, is thrust backward in time to a 19th-century Maryland plantation. Over many visits to the past, she realizes that the spoiled son of the plantation owner is her ancestor, destined to father children with a slave, and she must protect his life to ensure her own existence. Butler's celebrated 1979 novel, here adapted into a graphic novel, starts with a gripping idea and builds skillfully, as both Dana and her white husband in the present are warped by slavery and become complicit in its evil. This graphic novel recaps the classic source material faithfully without adding much to justify the adaptation, although it may find some new readers. The blocky artwork lacks the subtlety to evoke the complexity of the novel or the vividness of its historical settings (in addition to the antebellum South, the adaptation preserves the 1970s setting of the "present-day" sections). It's an effective recap, clearly produced with great love and respect, but the book remains the gold standard. (Jan.)

Glenn Gould: A Life Off Tempo

Sandrine Revel, trans. from the French. NBM, \$25.99 (136p) ISBN 978-1-68112-065-2

As a classic example of the eccentric genius, pianist Glenn Gould is an irresistible subject for biographers. Intense, fussy, and difficult, yet oddly charismatic, and cloaked in a protective cloud of quirks, he was hailed as perhaps the greatest musician of his era before retiring into Salinger-like seclusion. This appropriately refined graphic novel, awash in cool watercolors, skips through time from Gould's strict childhood as the prodigy of demanding parents to the 1982 stroke that ushered in his death. In between, the

genius aggravates his agent, quests for the perfect piano, and submerges himself in music. Prolific French cartoonist Revel plays with form and narrative convention, filling some pages with documentary realism, others with surreal fantasies. It's hard to avoid comparisons to the cult-classic *Thirty-Two Short Films About Glenn Gould*, which takes a similarly fragmented approach to evoking Gould's life and work. But Revel's stunning artwork makes this book, timed to commemorate what would have been Gould's 85th birthday, a worthy new biography. (Dec.)

Band for Life

Anya Davidson. Fantagraphics, \$29.99 (256p) ISBN 978-1-60699-954-7

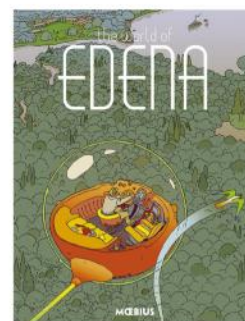
Originally serialized online, this web-comic is the psychedelically drawn tale of a group of misfits pursuing their musical career on Chicago's South Side. Portraying sound in comics is always tricky, but Davidson (*School Spirits*) has cleverly substituted color for noise. The pages are a blazing riot of purple against yellow, splashed with turquoise, brick red, and acid green. The effect is as loud and harsh as the band's music, a perfect fit with the narrative. In the opening pages, the rock group Guntit secure their first gig. This could be their big break—if Linda can get the night off work, if Animal can find a babysitter, Krang can borrow a van for the gear, Renato's amp is working, and Zot can remember any of their songs. Davidson is intimately acquainted with the struggles of fitting a music career around the commitments of family, friends, work, and relationships. Her character's lives are a mess, but her portrayal is deeply compassionate. Unfortunately this collection ends essentially mid-scene, with no explanation about the lack of conclusion. (Nov.)

★ Moebius Library: The World of Edena

Moebius. Dark Horse, \$65.99 (344p) ISBN 978-1-5067-0216-2

The first volume in Dark Horse's new Moebius Library finally gives the legendary French cartoonist—long unavailable in English—the American welcome he deserves with a spectacular hardcover album of the entire Edena saga, annotated with notes from the artist and his studio.

Spacefaring mechanics Stel and Atan find their way to Edena, a planetary paradise of



lush jungles, welcoming gardens, and bronze deserts. Gradually they abandon the trappings of their futuristic society to reconnect with the land, dis-

covering sex and sensuality along with unprocessed food. But a high-tech cult and a belligerent id-demon threaten to spoil their back-to-nature buzz. Glowingly illustrated in the elegant clear-line art and rich colors for which Moebius is justly revered, the book careens spectacularly through science fiction, fantasy, allegory, pop psychology, and psychedelia. That this ambitious saga began life as an ad for Citroën cars is only one example of Moebius's transcendent imagination, now finally brought to English. (Nov.)

The Discipline, Vol. 1: The Seduction

Peter Milligan and Leandro Fernández. Image, \$9.99 trade paper (160p.) ISBN 978-1-63215-922-9

Milligan (*New Romancer*) and Fernández (*Punisher Max*) tell of a battle between ancient inhuman enemies, the Discipline and the Stalkers. Both use sex as a tool to convert humans to their cause, and neither side gives any quarter. Melissa Peake is a young woman with an inattentive husband whose potential is being squandered, making her ripe for recruitment by the Discipline. Once she's seduced to their side, she's able to assume the somewhat reptilian form of the Discipline at will. The lycanthropic Stalkers consider this newcomer to their world as weak and pursue her relentlessly. This unquestionably deserves its M rating, as there is sex of various sorts, including BDSM and fornication with actual monsters, along with plenty of death, much of which is a result of the sex. The artwork, both Fernández's rendering and the colors by Cris Peter, are reminiscent of Hellboy and BPRD. A dark blend of sex magic and horror. (Oct.)

Nonfiction

★ You, Too, Could Write a Poem: Selected Reviews and Essays, 2000–2015

David Orr. Penguin, \$16 trade paper (384p)
ISBN 978-0-14-312819-9

Orr (*The Road Not Taken*) collects entries from his *New York Times* poetry column from the past 15 years, analyzing the works of individual poets and the state of the form itself. He provides equal parts illuminating commentary and hilarious jabs at the poetry world's insularity and pretensions. He playfully skewers Billy Collins in a verse that perfectly mimics Collins's signature style and disparages poets who are "small-scale epiphany manufacturers." Among his many skills, Orr displays a singular ability to capture a poet's sensibility, comparing Stevie Smith to a figure skater whose "seemingly purposeless meanderings" somehow "cut into the ice the figure of a hanged man." A very clever piece examining clichés of poetic "greatness" argues for Elizabeth Bishop's more subtle powers over "thunderbolt-chucking wild man" Robert Lowell. More user-friendly pieces look at the tradition of wedding poetry, poke fun at an *O Magazine* feature titled "Spring Fashion Modeled by Rising Young Poets," and summarily appraise James Franco's poetic output: "Is it, you may be wondering, good? No." Orr is an exceptional wit and critical talent, with perhaps his most brilliant feat here being how he dissolves some of poetry's opacity and makes it more accessible (and interesting) to a wider audience. *Agent: Betsy Lerner, Dunow, Carlson & Lerner. (Feb.)*

★ The Book That Changed America: How Darwin's Theory of Evolution Ignited a Nation

Randall Fuller. Viking, \$27 (304p)
ISBN 978-0-525-42833-6

In this inventive work, which weaves two powerful events into a vibrant tapestry of antebellum intellectual life, Fuller (*From Battlefields Rising*), professor of English at the University of Tulsa, beautifully describes how the engagement by a group of Transcendentalists with Darwin's newly published *On the Origin of*



© BEATRIZ DA COSTA

In Bowls of Plenty, Carolyn Carreño offers healthy recipes such as this spicy tuna tartare with brown sushi rice and avocado (reviewed on p. 55).

Species deepened their commitment to the antislavery movement. Still reeling from abolitionist John Brown's 1859 raid on Harpers Ferry, Transcendentalists (and Brown supporters) Franklin Sanborn, Charles Loring Brace, Bronson Alcott, and Henry David Thoreau quickly devoured Darwin's book and recommended it to others. All people were biologically related, Darwin's work hinted, which Transcendentalists interpreted as a repudiation of the belief that "African-American slaves were a separate, inferior species." Fuller shares the Transcendentalists' knack for clearly presenting complex ideas. He nimbly traverses the details of the scientific debate between Jean Louis Rodolphe Agassiz and Asa Gray over the theories of polygenism and evolution. There's a glimpse of Louisa May Alcott, inspired by Darwin's book to write a daring story of interracial love. Elegant writing and an unusual approach to interpreting the time period make this a must-read for everyone interested in Civil War-era history. *Illus. Agent: Marianne Merola, Brandt & Hochman Literary. (Feb.)*

Lincoln on Leadership for Today: Abraham Lincoln's Approach to 21st-Century Issues

Donald T. Phillips. Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, \$26 (336p) ISBN 978-0-544-81464-6

Phillips's topical follow-up to his earlier *Lincoln on Leadership* begins by describing the nine-year-old Abraham

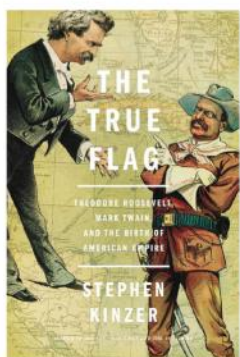
Lincoln at his mother's deathbed, listening to her last words: "Be good to one another." That sets the tone for this intelligent and often moving look at one of the nation's greatest presidents. Phillips portrays Lincoln as a gentle and sensitive boy who became the same type of leader, trying to maintain the Union in his early presidency while dealing with high casualty rates and soldiers gone AWOL. While Lincoln was a conscientious congressman who often made bipartisan overtures, he also took care to denounce the "evil spirit" of corruption he saw in Washington, D.C. Elsewhere, Phillips recalls a momentous biblical quotation from one of Lincoln's early senate campaigns, "A house divided against itself cannot stand." Using his extensive knowledge of Lincoln, Phillips makes convincing cases throughout for what the 19th-century statesman's opinion would be on a wide array of issues faced by the 21st-century U.S., including climate change, torture, immigration, and equal pay for women. For readers who find present-day politics almost too much to contemplate, Phillips's closing vision of Lincoln witnessing the "current state of affairs" will be especially poignant and bittersweet. *Agent: Bob Barnett, Williams & Connolly. (Feb.)*

★ The True Flag: Theodore Roosevelt, Mark Twain, and the Birth of American Empire

Stephen Kinzer. Holt, \$28 (320p) ISBN 978-1-62779-216-5

Acclaimed journalist Kinzer (*The Brothers*) spotlights the domestic discord and clamor over America's imperial ventures at the dawn of the 20th century. After a century of continental expansion, the U.S. encountered the opportunity to expand overseas by capturing Spanish colonial possessions and other territories and peoples within its reach. The nation plunged into arguably "the farthest-reaching debate" in its history with political and intellectual giants contesting "the imperial idea" to determine America's place in the world and in history. Expansionists proclaimed benevolent intent and a civilizing mission while touting the economic benefits of conquest; anti-imperialists recalled America's anticolonial origins and condemned

imperialist violence and brutality. The former largely triumphed, as the U.S. soon controlled Cuba and annexed Puerto



Rico, Guam, Hawaii, and the Philippines in a swift series of subjugations. In Kinzer's gripping narrative, the egotistical Theodore Roosevelt emerges in his aggressively

hypermasculine fashion as the most outspoken expansionist, while Mark Twain embarks on the "least-known phase of his career" to resist the violent drive toward empire. Kinzer ably conveys the passion and ferment of this brief period, situating this grand debate in the context of U.S. foreign policy history and convincingly arguing that the imperial/anti-imperial dichotomy remains a dominant feature of the American psyche. (Feb.)

To Be a Machine: Adventures Among Cyborgs, Utopians, Hackers, and the Futurists Solving the Modest Problem of Death

Mark O'Connell. Doubleday, \$26.95 (256p)
ISBN 978-0-385-54041-4

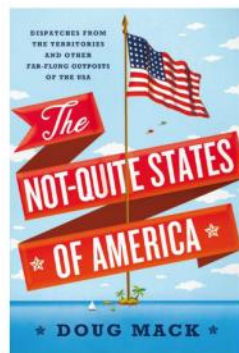
Transhumanism—defined here as "a liberation movement advocating nothing less than a total emancipation from biology itself"—is scrutinized in this compact, provocative exploration of the techniques and technologies currently being advanced to extend human intelligence and life spans. *Slate* columnist and debut author O'Connell takes an open-minded but skeptical approach to his subject as he leads the reader on a tour of modern facilities devoted to enhancing the human "meat machine": cryonics storehouses that freeze brains and bodies for future resuscitation, whole-brain emulation labs studying the scanning and uploading of human consciousness, robotics researchers attempting to create simulacra capable of human function, cyborg "grindhouses" crafting renegade interfaces between the body and smart technology, and gerontology institutions that are trying to "cure" aging. O'Connell

writes with an intellectual curiosity that makes his esoteric subject matter accessible to lay readers, and he tempers his observations with the existential anxiety that the concept of transhumanism evokes, as when he describes it as "an expression of the profound human longing to transcend the confusion and desire and impotence and sickness of the body, cowering in the darkening shadow of its own decay." His book is a stimulating overview of modern scientific realities once thought to be the exclusive purview of science fiction. Agent: *Amelia Atlas, ICM Partners*. (Feb.)

The Not-Quite States of America: Dispatches from the Territories and Other Far-Flung Outposts of the USA

Doug Mack. Norton, \$26.95 (320p) ISBN 978-0-393-24760-2

A thoughtful blend of history, insight, and first-person experiences colors this travelogue focused on some of the most overlooked parts of America, the United States territories. Travel writer Mack (*Europe on Five Wrong Turns a Day*) sets out to learn more about these distant neighbors and shares his insights in this entertaining, informative study. He explores each territory with an open mind and an open notebook, hanging out with beer-drinking pigs in Saint Croix and strolling through the world's largest Kmart in Samoa. He also recounts more than a few sobering experiences, such as visiting



American colonialism, underlined by the question of which cultural aspects of each territory should be retained and which should be assimilated into broader American culture, is the spine of the book. Rather than taking an authoritative approach, Mack lets the residents do just as much of the talking and analyzing,

Samoa's Suicide Cliff, where thousands of Japanese civilians and troops leapt to their death to avoid capture by American troops. Mack's thoughtful assessment of

making for a strong book sure to spark thought and inspire further research. Agent: *Alice Tasman, Jean V. Naggart Literary Agency*. (Feb.)

Identity Unknown: Rediscovering Seven American Women Artists

Donna Seaman. Bloomsbury, \$32 (480p)
ISBN 978-1-62040-758-5

Booklist editor Seaman (*Writers on the Air: Conversations About Books*) highlights the lives and work of seven "underappreciated" women artists from the 20th century, but sloppy writing and a lack of focus undermine this slice of art history. For one, Seaman's selection is highly personal—she explains that she chose "to write about artists whose work has deeply affected [her]"—but the biographical sketches are framed around a broad notion of obscurity. This feels less than apropos when discussing Louise Nevelson, an artist with a New York City plaza named after her. The biographical sketches of the other artists—Gertrude Abercrombie, Joan Brown, Lois Mailou Jones, Ree Morton, Christina Ramberg, and Lenore Tawney—are undermined by overwrought writing and disjointed stories. Seaman also has a habit of including random facts without further explanation of their significance. For example, Seaman attributes Jones's scholarship to the School of the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston, to her athletic ability without any explanation as to why an art school would be interested in a student's athleticism. Elsewhere she writes that Brown learned from the experience of teaching at a private school, but fails to explain how. Occasionally photographs will show one of the artists with their work in the background, but there aren't many images of the actual work. Instead, readers must often rely on written descriptions, which makes Seaman's book even harder to penetrate. B&W photos. (Feb.)

True South: Henry Hampton and 'Eyes on the Prize,' the Landmark Television Series That Reframed the Civil Rights Series

Jon Else. Viking, \$30 (416p) ISBN 978-1-101-98093-4

Else, an accomplished documentarian, chronicles the making of the 1987 TV civil rights documentary *Eyes on the Prize*,

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Page to Screen/Screen to Page

In this insightful new work, cinema

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Emily Esfahani Smith. Crown, \$28 (304p)

Journalist Smith, who has an M.A. in

viduals who chose to focus on meaning



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David M. Smick. *Perseus*, \$27.99 (272p)

Smick (*The World Is Curved*) an invest-



Gerard Toal. Oxford Univ., \$29.95 (352p)

Toal, director of the government and

tary actions in Georgia and Ukraine to demonstrate how “structurally similar affective storylines in U.S. and Russian geopolitical culture produced mutual incomprehension.” He begins by delving into Putin’s worldview. In Putin’s own words, with the collapse of the Soviet Union “tens of millions of our co-citizens and compatriots found themselves outside Russian territory.” Toal believes that Putin is not trying to recreate the U.S.S.R., but to bring these self-identified Russians back into the fold and “to make Russia great again.” Thus, Putin sees NATO and E.U. expansion as a threat to those Russians living “near abroad.” American actions during George W. Bush’s administration and onward that support “democratic” regimes in Georgia and other border countries have only increased Russian fear of a takeover of these regions by Western nations.

American support of an independent Kosovo and American rejection of Ossetian independence are evidence that a chillingly similar rhetoric is employed by both Russia and the West to justify their aims. Toal’s thorough, academically oriented study provides a window into the beliefs of many Russians and is a corrective to the point of view prevalent in Western news. (*Jan.*)

The Flood Year 1927: A Cultural History

Susan Scott Parrish. Princeton Univ., \$35 (416p) ISBN 978-0-691-16883-8

Using vivid explanations of key literary and musical works complemented by contemporary illustrations, Parrish (*American Curiosity*), professor in the Department of English Language and Literature and the Program in the Environment at the University of Michigan, successfully dem-

onstrates that the Great Mississippi Flood of 1927 left a lasting, modernizing cultural imprint. Rather than recreate the flood’s geographic or chronological progress, Parrish details the disaster’s aftermath, charting its evolution from a sad but unifying event into one that recalled antebellum divisiveness and man-made environmental destruction. The flood covered seven (mostly Southern) states, inspiring “Vaudeville fund-raiser acts” as well as unprecedented private donations. The reality for the affected included segregated refugee camps and other horrors described in Richard Wright’s fictionalized treatments of “Jim Crow environmental disasters.” Government officials boasted about their extensive—and failing—levee system from afar, but Bessie Smith’s mournful “Backwater Blues” and Faulkner’s flood novels, so evocatively documented here, encapsu-

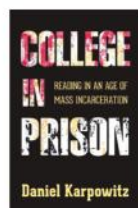
HIGHER EDUCATION BEHIND BARS

The Bard Prison Initiative receives a thorough treatment in these two books.

College in Prison: Reading in an Age of Mass Incarceration

Daniel Karpowitz. Rutgers Univ., \$24.95 (208p) ISBN 978-0-8135-8412-6

Debut author Karpowitz explores the value of liberal arts education and the nature of incarceration as the two strands join in the Bard Prison Initiative, a college-in-prison program that specifically aims to recreate the liberal arts college experience in multiple prisons in New York. His account draws on his personal experience as an instructor and admin-

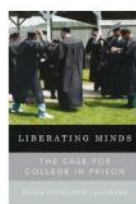


istrator in the program. Karpowitz moves between scholarly examinations and novelistic narrative recreations of his classes that allow the students’ voices (albeit filtered) to be heard. The structure of the narrative fluctuates, sometimes connecting general themes such as the relationship between race and incarceration to specific classroom sessions and student experiences, while at other times only recounting significant past events, such as the first full-scale graduation ceremony. The book feels like it can’t quite decide on a genre. Karpowitz falls a bit into the memoirist’s trap of having every ordinary classroom session and conversation include a teachable moment or student epiphany. Taken as a whole, however, these stories provide a fresh representation of the imprisoned, highlighting their heterogeneity and humanity and convincing the reader to fight against “the well-meaning but insidious bigotry of low expectations.” (*Feb.*)

Liberating Minds: The Case for College in Prison

Ellen Condliffe Lagemann. New Press, \$26.95 (256p) ISBN 978-1-62097-059-1

Lagemann, a former dean of the Harvard Graduate School of Education and the Distinguished Fellow of the Bard Prison Initiative at Bard College in N.Y., argues that providing prisoners with a college education is good for both



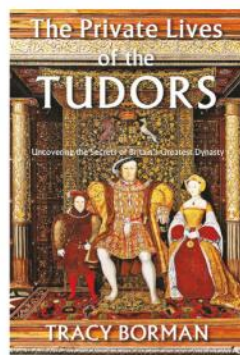
prisoners and society. College education helps the formerly incarcerated cope with the shame of having been imprisoned, communicate with their families, and increase opportunities for employment, and such programs also help society by lowering recidivism, incarceration costs, and the crime rate. In response to conflicting research about recidivism, Lagemann argues, persuasively, that these studies were either flawed or based on older, coercive models of prison education. She claims that self-directed programs in which prisoners have control over when and what they learn are effective. There is a particular focus on the Bard Prison Initiative, but other programs are mentioned too, including the Freedom Education Project Puget Sound at the Washington Correctional Facility for Women and the Prison University Project at San Quentin in California. Lagemann includes intensive research, but her most powerful supporting evidence comes from the anecdotes of former prisoners who have become published poets, social workers, and nonprofit leaders. (*Feb.*)

lated the human cost while irrevocably changing music and literature. A thoughtful comparison of 1927's events to 2005's Hurricane Katrina aftermath highlights continuing issues concerning the manipulation of natural flood controls and its effect on impoverished, low-lying neighborhoods. Throughout, Parrish successfully and eloquently captures the sense of humanity and personal loss among the million refugees whose experiences gave rise to artistic efforts and environmental issues that continue to resonate. Maps & illus. (Jan.)

The Private Lives of the Tudors: Uncovering the Secrets of Britain's Greatest Dynasty

Tracy Borman. Grove, \$27 (464p)
ISBN 978-0-8021-2599-6

Borman (*Thomas Cromwell*), a senior curator of Britain's Historic Royal Palaces organization, eschews the oft-told tabloid tales that emphasize the Tudor family's colorful public personas to focus instead upon their private lives and daily rituals. The larger-than-life personalities and romantic misadventures of the Tudor dynasty, which ruled England from 1485 to 1603, have been thoroughly mined in print and on film; readers hoping for yet another sensationalist and titillating history



are going to be disappointed. Borman doesn't do much to further popular understanding of the period, and the amount of detail about the rarefied world that the

Tudors inhabited can be overwhelming, but she does unearth some obscure and intriguing tidbits that have been overlooked by other historians. Among the details included here are accounts that Henry VIII so liked the puddings made by the only woman who worked in his kitchens that he bought her a house, and that Elizabeth I liked to wear a perfume that she herself had invented. Though all five Tudor monarchs made even their most private moments into courtly spectacles, including their bathroom customs

and childbirth travails, Borman's fine book goes far toward humanizing them. Recommended for serious devotees of the period. Illus. (Jan.)

It Rains in February: A Wife's Memoir of Love and Loss

Leila Summers. Leila Summers, \$5.99 e-book (246p) ASIN B0062EIRAI

Summers's memoir is a complex contemporary tragedy written by a mature, talented writer. Summers speaks directly to her husband, Stuart, who chose to end his own life, in this painfully honest eulogy. The intimate style, combined with second-person narration, gives the story a page-turning tension. Summers must first accept that her emotional, smart, artistic husband has fallen deeply in love with another woman. The small family that includes two young daughters is fractured when Stuart moves out of their Victorian home in the suburbs of a South African city, and the rupture deepens when Stuart moves further away from his family and his reluctant lover to be near his sister, Ruth, in Cape Town. Summers works from a distance to keep her long-suicidal husband alive, while Ruth makes similar efforts from nearby. Ultimately, the love of his wife, sister, and children are not enough to keep him alive. Summers's skilled prose ("Bleakness permeates the moist air and seeps into my pores") makes this traumatic book bearable to read. This memoir is a cathartic exercise for the author and could well serve in the same capacity for anyone who has lost a loved one to suicide. (*BookLife*)

Footprints in the Dew: Damon "Chub" Anderson and the Unsolved Mullendore Murder

Dale R. Lewis. Buffalo Dale, \$20 (326p)
ISBN 978-0-692-50353-9

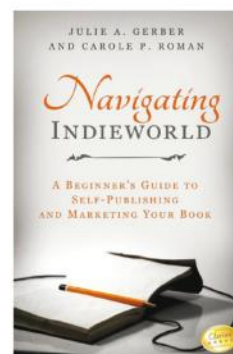
Lewis, a columnist for Oklahoma daily newspaper *Bartleville Examiner-Enterprise*, chronicles the life of career criminal Chub Anderson, who was long suspected of the 1970 murder of millionaire rancher E.C. Mullendore, heir to a lucrative family ranching operation in Osage County, Okla., and possessor of one of the largest life insurance policies in the U.S. at the time. Anderson was finally arrested in 2006 after years on the run for jumping bond on an unrelated charge. Lewis first

met Anderson shortly after his arrest and spent three subsequent years in contact with Anderson, who agreed to speak openly to Lewis for this book. The focus on Anderson's own life, rather than a detailed exploration of the crime and the investigation, will disappoint some readers, and Lewis doesn't succeed in making his subject interesting or sympathetic, even if he himself found that he liked Anderson "despite all the negative things I learned about his past." (*BookLife*)

Navigating Indieworld: A Beginner's Guide to Self-Publishing and Marketing Your Book

Julie A. Gerber and Carole P. Roman. CreateSpace, \$12.99 trade paper (146p)
ISBN 978-1-5372-2806-8

Gerber and Roman enthusiastically welcome writers to the world of DIY publishing with this slender book, which contains many useful pointers for authors



trying to learn to effectively create and attract attention to their publications. Gerber, founder of a social media firm, and Roman, a self-published author, discuss

the many steps involved in self-publishing. Roman begins by encouraging readers to start writing and explaining the need for a beta reader to comment on a manuscript, welcome points for neophytes. Hiring an illustrator, formatting and publishing books or e-books, and—especially—promoting the finished product are explained in an easy-to-follow manner. Examples are plentiful, which can be helpful, though readers would have benefited from a wider source of examples that those of the two authors and their family members. The authors provide unintended examples of one of the issues of self-publishing: their book's formatting is problematic, with occasional spacing issues between paragraphs, text running into the gutter, and other typesetting flaws. The lack of chapter headings in the table of contents also decreases its

usability. This is a sincere general guide for beginners, who will most benefit from the chapters and resources devoted to book promotion. (*BookLife*)

Singing In My Own Key:

A Vocalist's Triumph Over Stroke

Valerie L. Giglio. Forza, \$9.99 (250p)

ASIN B01GF174YC

Giglio, a Boston-area singer and lawyer, details the year she spent recovering from a devastating brain stem stroke she suffered at age 42, which caused her musical and legal worlds “to spin out of control.” Balancing chapters on the details of her recovery—including prolonged hospital stays, confinement to a wheelchair, and “relentless” dizziness—with others on developments in both of her careers, Giglio more than meets her goal of showing readers that “miracles happen.” She deftly explores the “surreal” experience of having a stroke: “Inside you’re screaming to get out, but you can’t move.” She also describes the various grueling physical and mental therapies she endured in order to meet her goal of returning to performing in a year—a goal she accomplished with the help of supportive family and friends. She is guided by the words of her mentor, legendary jazz performer Al Vega, who shows her that “sometimes we have to take a chance and keep going no matter what obstacles we face.” Deciding that “the only limitations were the ones I put on myself,” Giglio hopes her story and struggles will help others “reach for the stars and dream big.” (*BookLife*)

Tough Girl: An Olympian's Journey

Carolyn Wood. White Pine Press (Oregon), \$18 paper (306p) ISBN 978-0-9977828-0-6

In this scattered debut work, written after hiking the Camino de Santiago, Wood reflects on the struggles of youth as the root of her courage and strength necessary to push on in later life. Wood, a competitive swimmer in her early years, attempts to relate a life of hard lessons that got her to the 1960 Junior Olympics in Rome and helped her through adolescence in the mid-1960s. However, while Wood thinks fondly of her time in the pool, swimming feels like something she did in between more important life happenings. Wood depicts herself in turn as a daughter in a strained relationship with a

mother recovering from cancer, an athlete constantly pushing to be and do better, a lesbian finding comfort in her own sexuality, and a middle-aged woman looking to the next phase of life. Making stops at every trying life obstacle from childhood to late adulthood, she introduces so many charged elements that the novel feels unsure of which story it is trying to tell. The sections on swimming, her mother, and her lesbianism are thought provoking, but this is mostly an aimless journey in the present while dipping into the past, with a number of rhetorical questions that read as though she’s trying to figure out her life as she’s writing it. (*BookLife*)

Lifestyle

Food

★ Bowls of Plenty:

Recipes for Healthy and Delicious Whole Grain Meals

Carolynn Carreño. Grand Central Life & Style, \$28 (240p) ISBN 978-1-4555-3658-0

Carreño (co-author of *The Mozza Cookbook* and *Meat: Everything There Is to Know*) has impeccable creds on the seemingly ubiquitous yet still growing phenomenon of one-bowl meals. Carreño is a California native with a self-described “health nut” mother, and her take on value-added whole grains is deeply authoritative and inspiringly delicious. A “Meet Your Grains” guide ranges alphabetically from amaranth to wild rice, encompassing Italian farro and Khorasan wheat—commonly sold as Kamut, a trademarked name—and including clear instructions that make it seem easy to cook even the most esoteric items. More familiar oats (as groats, steel-cut, or rolled) and brown rice (both long- and short-grain) get play as well. Carreño’s determinedly “flavor first” approach draws on influences modern eaters want, such as high-quality proteins and farmer’s market vegetables, which can be combined as Korean short ribs and kimchi rice, Thai-style satay of chicken or tofu with coconut rice and peanut sauce, or an “Ultimate Burrito Bowl.” Guides for building one’s own Asian, farmer’s market, Middle Eastern, and Mexican bowls make it simple to customize a meal

with what’s on hand or what the reader craves. (*Jan.*)

The Whole30 Cookbook

Melissa Hartwig. Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, \$30 (320p) ISBN 978-0-544-85441-3

Hartwig, a sports nutritionist and cocreator of the Whole30 diet plan, packs her fourth book on the subject with 150 recipes that are, as the cover proclaims in all-caps, “totally compliant.” That means heavy emphasis on eggs, meat, fish, and fresh vegetables, but no grains, dairy, legumes or added sugars. Whether or not one buys into Whole30, there is no denying that Hartwig has come up with a clever array of healthy and flavorful dishes. Highlights include Asian beef zoodle (zucchini noodles) soup, which is similar to Vietnamese pho but uses zucchini noodles, and grilled Jamaican jerk salmon with fresh mango salsa. Many of the recipes come courtesy of guest cooks from various food blogs. For instance, Michelle Smith, from the Whole Smiths blog, contributes cherry-chipotle BBQ chicken thighs, with the fruit providing the sweetness and ground chipotle bringing the heat. Veteran food and cocktail photographer Brent Herrig drives home the point that a burger served on a tomato slice is as delectable as one on a bun, and that meatballs do just fine in a cream sauce made with coconut milk. (*Dec.*)

The Complete Mediterranean Cookbook: 500 Vibrant, Kitchen-Tested Recipes for Living and Eating Well Every Day

The editors at America's Test Kitchen.

America's Test Kitchen, \$29.95 trade paper (440p) ISBN 978-1-940352-64-0

America’s Test Kitchen tackles Mediterranean cooking with 500 recipes. The book opens with an introduction to the “Mediterranean Diet Pyramid,” instructions on creating a Mediterranean table, and menu planning; the fundamentals are outlined to help readers integrate this lifestyle into their daily menus. As always, America’s Test Kitchen has exhaustively tested each recipe and included serving sizes, time delineations, culinary categories, an introduction that explains why the recipe works, and ways to change up the dish with other flavors or

ingredients. The flavorful recipes include a spicy Moroccan-style chicken and lentil soup, tagliatelle with artichokes and Parmesan, and garlicky roasted shrimp with parsley and anise. These and other dishes can easily be integrated into readers' existing menus. Helpful notes fill the book, such as "Buying Mussels and Clams" and "Shaping a Press-in Tart Shell." A chapter for "Fruit and Sweets" finishes the book with such treats as lemon-anise biscotti, baklava, and Greek lemon rice pudding. This title will be a workhorse in any kitchen. Photos. (Dec.)

But My Family Would Never Eat Vegan!

Kristy Turner. The Experiment, \$24.95 trade paper (336p) ISBN 978-1-61519-342-4

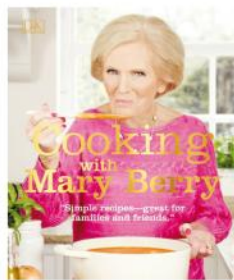
Coming off the success of her debut cookbook, *But I Could Never Go Vegan!*, Turner delivers a cookbook designed to handle all the typical excuses or doubts for not eating vegan food. For example, "I don't know what we'd do without so many of the staple ingredients we use every day!" highlights vegan pantry staples such as basic cashew cheese sauce. Turner's wit and charm shine through the stories and chapter titles: "If forced to choose between chicken wings and me, my spouse would choose the wings." Many recipes are naturally vegan, such as mushroom kale skillet hash and a green quinoa salad. However, the Double-Double Cheeseburger, which requires vegan substitutions and seemingly a great deal of work, is a gamble with carnivores and may not be worth the effort. The book is organized by excuses and not set out as typical cookbooks are. Helpful icons at the beginning of each recipe label those that are gluten-free, nut-free, or in need of some advanced preparation. Recipes are outlined with prep time and active time commitments and photographs are plentiful. With a great sense of humor and a riposte for every possible excuse, Turner's book may have even the most reluctant family considering going vegan. Photos. (Nov.)

Cooking with Mary Berry

Mary Berry. DK, \$25 (224p) ISBN 978-1-4654-5951-0

British baking grand dame Berry (*Mary Berry's Baking Bible*), beloved judge of *The Great British Bake Off*, compiles a

delightful array of new family recipes that "look good, taste good [and are] practical to make." Simple recipes, all using a limited number of widely available ingredients, are divided into stages, with any unusual instructions mapped out step by step. Berry includes an informative section on cooking methods for eggs, meat, fish and shellfish, veggies, and desserts. Breakfast and brunch options include an appetizing strata with cheese and pesto, zucchini and prosciutto frittata, and kedgeree, a British favorite made with rice, smoked haddock, and hard-boiled eggs. Vibrant full-color photos accompany many recipes, none more appetizing than her mouthwatering butternut squash



soup and rustic pizza tartlets. Her Provençal-style roast chicken, coq au vin, and beef pot roast with winter vegetables are hearty, flavorful dishes

with a minimal amount of fuss. She also suggests tasty alternatives to traditional stuffings, using spinach, onions, and mushrooms in place of a starch to accompany pork chops and stuffing a beautiful broiled trout with sautéed cucumbers. Pad thai with shrimp, veal schnitzel, fettucine primavera, and couscous with roasted bell peppers bring an international flair to the collection. Berry also includes numerous side dishes and scrumptious breads and desserts that are sure to please. Home cooks will treasure this superb collection. (Nov.)

Health & Fitness

The Engine 2 Seven-Day Rescue Diet: Eat Plants, Lose Weight, Save Your Health

Rip Esselstyn. Grand Central Life & Style, \$27 (288p) ISBN 978-1-4555-9117-6

Esselstyn (*The Engine 2 Diet*), a former Austin, Tex., firefighter, delivers another winning book that provides a straightforward seven-day diet concept, a boatload of enticing recipes, and compelling testimonials alongside the promises of "life-changing results." The biggest hurdle for many dieters is that this is strictly a plant-based, "plant-strong" diet, but Esselstyn

has such a high-energy writing style and gives so many convincingly detailed statistics that it's hard to reject his approach out of hand. This is also a "no oil" diet during the rescue week; Esselstyn encourages readers to "give your poor taste buds some time to wake up." The author features a number of helpful graphic aids, from an inset quiz to screened text boxes and testimonials throughout the book that reinforce each chapter's specific topic. A simple 21-meal, seven-day diet kickoff, supported by many pages of recipes, completes the appealing package. There's even an "approved shopping list," including many brand-name items, that's organized by food category. Get ready to have many food and diet myths debunked. *Agent: Richard Pine, Inkwell Management.* (Dec.)

Goop Clean Beauty

Editors of Goop. Grand Central, \$30 (288p) ISBN 978-1-4555-4155-3

The editors at Gwyneth Paltrow's *Goop*, a weekly newsletter turned multi-faceted lifestyle resource, have consolidated their best lifestyle tips into a single helpful volume with the aim of helping people detox and develop healthy habits. The book emphasizes holistic living, which means that the wholesome recipes work optimally when used in concert with hair and skin treatments, yoga, healthful make-up, and beauty supplements. The plentiful recipes that serve this end offer creative ways to combine the limited foods that fall under their narrowly defined culinary purview. Right off the bat, however, the no-nos are established, and the list is extensive: no alcohol, caffeine, dairy, eggs, beef, pork, shellfish, raw fish, gluten, soy, potatoes, or tomatoes, and that's just the beginning. The book even includes a "mani-pedi manifesto" outlining chemical-free polishing products. This is a helpful book targeted at an elite contingent who have no worries about food budgets. (Dec.)

Home & Garden

Harvest:

Unexpected Projects Using 47 Extraordinary Garden Plants

Stefani Bittner and Alethea Haramopolis, photos by David Fenton. Ten Speed, \$22 (224p) ISBN 978-0-399-57833-5

Bittner and Haramopolis, owners of the

Homestead Design Collective, a landscape design firm in the San Francisco Bay Area, expand the sense of possibility for practical use of typical plants while showing readers how to increase the bounty of the harvest. For example, lavender is often predictably consigned to the sachet or dried arrangements when, as noted in the book, it goes fabulously with chocolate mint for an invigorating tea. Salt-preserving herbs is another little-known and easily executed project that introduces year-long longevity for seasonal culinary delicacies. Whether for culinary purposes or home design, each project includes advice for optimal growing and cultivation of the relevant plants, followed by tips for proper harvesting. Arranged according to seasons, and accompanied by dramatic and intimate color photos, these creative and eclectic projects make a great resource for the earth-minded lover who relishes nature's gifts but needs new ways of cultivating them and deriving their bountiful benefits. Color photos. (Feb.)

Parenting

Breathe Mama Breathe: 5-Minute Mindfulness for Busy Moms

Shonda Moralis. The Experiment, \$14.95 trade paper (288p) ISBN 978-1-61519-356-1

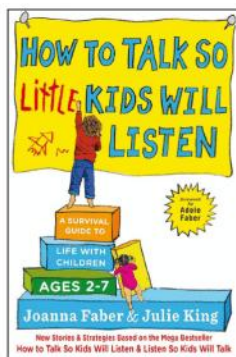
This debut from Moralis, a psychotherapist and mother of two, consolidates the lessons of her *Psychology Today* blog into handbook form, offering harried mothers tools for cultivating mindfulness in the tiny bits of time that are often all that's available. Moralis starts by touting, and giving basic instructions for, a short sitting meditation. But the bulk of the book is dedicated over 60 brief write-ups, consisting of a personal anecdote plus instructions, of short "mindful breaks" that can be taken throughout a typical parent's day to become "still, less distracted, patient, and calm." Many are for specific times—while drinking morning coffee, at the school bus stop, or while doing dishes—but others can be used whenever stressful situations occur, as with "STOP the Teen 'Tude," or encourage self-care in quiet moments in the day. As the title promises, Moralis also provides breath exercises, including some that can be done with children, such as "The Three-Breath Hug." Some

juxtapositions jump between stages of life and can feel disjointed—"Your Teen Driver" is immediately followed by "Bottle- or Breast-Feeding"—and some suggestions lean away from quick fixes and toward broad attitude adjustments. Overall, Moralis's suggestions strike an effective and empowering note. *Agent: Claire Gerus, Claire Gerus Literary Agency. (Jan.)*

How to Talk So Little Kids Will Listen: A Survival Guide to Life with Children Ages 2 to 7

Joanna Faber and Julie King. Scribner, \$25 (288p) ISBN 978-1-501-13165-3

Anyone who has ever tried to entice a young child to take a nap or eat a healthy dinner knows that meeting willful behavior with a firm, yet nurturing approach requires patience, understanding, and flexibility. This new guidebook by lifelong friends Faber (coauthor of *How to Talk So Kids Will Listen and Listen So Kids Will Talk*) and King, a parent educator and consultant, will help parents navigate this sometimes bumpy road. The examples and suggestions they provide are relatable and authentic, the direct result of their own experiences along with feedback from other parents. The first section discusses basic tools to help parents cope "when a youngster goes haywire," exploring topics such as "engaging cooperation" and "avoiding combat," with each chapter featuring a brief recap at the end. Part two shows "the tools in action," highlighting the issues Faber and King view as most challenging and how the tools can be used to deal with them. The authors' creative ideas will help parents feel they are not alone in dealing with little runaways, arguments over tooth brushing, tattling, and numerous other child-rearing dilemmas. As Faber notes, "Sometimes simple survival is a good goal." *Agent: Robert Markel, Markel Enterprises. (Jan.)*



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FICTION

★ **Selection Day** Aravind Adiga. Scribner, ISBN 978-1-5011-5083-8, Jan.

Bullet Gal Andrez Bergen. Roundfire, ISBN 978-1-78535-562-2, Dec.

The Collected Stories of Carol Emshwiller, Vol. 2 Carol Emshwiller. Nonstop, ISBN 978-1-933065-34-2, Nov.

Good Behavior: The Letty Dobesh Chronicles Blake Crouch. Thomas & Mercer, ISBN 978-1-503940-49-9, Nov.

Camp Rewind Meghan O'Brien. Bold Strokes, ISBN 978-1-62639-793-4, Oct.

Year's Best Weird Fiction, Vol. 3 Edited by Simon Strantzas and Michael Kelly. Undertow, ISBN 978-0-9950949-1-8, Oct.

Infamy Robert K. Tanenbaum. Gallery, ISBN 978-1-4767-9319-1, Sept.

POETRY

Exit Theater Mike Lala. Center for Literary Publishing, ISBN 978-1-885635-53-2, Nov.

At the Founding Hospital: Poems Robert Pinsky. Farrar, Straus and Giroux, ISBN 978-0-374-15811-8, Oct.

A Child of Storm Michael J. Wilson. Stalking Horse (SPD, dist.), \$12.95 trade paper (92p) ISBN 978-0-9970629-3-9, Oct.

House A Jennifer Cheng. Omnidawn, ISBN 978-1-63243-023-6, Oct.

The Rain in Portugal Billy Collins. Random House, ISBN 978-0-679-64406-4, Oct.

★ **The Sobbing School** Joshua Bennett. Penguin, ISBN 978-0-14-311186-3, Oct.

3 Summers Lisa Robertson. Coach House (Consortium, dist.), ISBN 978-1-55245-330-8, Oct.

Unbearable Splendor Sun Yung Shin. Coffee House (Consortium, dist.), ISBN 978-1-56689-451-7, Oct.

★ **Still Dirty: Poems 2009–2015** David Lau. Commune (SPD, dist.), ISBN 978-1-934639-18-4, Sept.

NONFICTION

Liturgy of the Ordinary: Sacred Practices in Everyday Life Tish Harrison Warren. InterVarsity, ISBN 978-0-8308-4623-8, Dec.

The Way of Rest: Finding Courage to Hold Everything in Love Jeff Foster. Sounds True, ISBN 978-1-62203-791-9, Oct.

Spitting Out the Bones: A Zen Master's 45 Year Journey Dennis Genpo Merzel. Big Mind, ISBN 978-0-9771423-9-2, Nov.

Children's/YA

Picture Books

Good Night, Baby Animals You've Had A Busy Day: A Treasury of Six Original Stories

Karen B. Winnick, illus. by Laura Watkins.

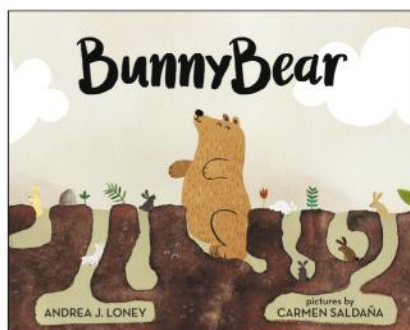
Holt, \$17.99 (64p) ISBN 978-0-8050-9883-9

These six stories about seven wild baby animals (there are twin tiger cubs) share a common narrative structure. An adorable protagonist, lightly anthropomorphized by Watkins (*Can You Yawn Like a Fawn?*) in tender mixed-media images, ventures out into the world to test its independence or learn new skills; in most of the stories, food is the motivator. Mama steps in to offer security and succor, bedtime arrives, the narrator wishes the baby animal “good night,” and everyone snuggles. Winnick (*Lucy's Cave*) incorporates fun sound effects and a smattering of repetition into each of the stories: Baby Elephant mimics his mother's actions (“Up, up. Mama reaches leaves. Up, up. Baby Elephant almost reaches leaves!”), while Baby Giraffe drinks his mother's milk with a “glub, glub, glub.” Is that a leopard Baby Rhino sees? Can Baby Panda get himself unstuck from the bamboo thicket? What will Baby Gorilla discover during her family's trek up the mountain? There's just enough dramatic tension to keep the pages turning without riling up any soon-to-be sleepers. Ages 2–5. *Author's agent: Ann Tobias. Illustrator's agency: Bright Agency. (Jan.)*

Pablo in the Snow

Teri Sloat, illus. by Rosalinde Bonnet. Holt/Ottaviano, \$16.99 (40p) ISBN 978-1-62779-412-1

When Pablo the lamb ventures out into his first snowfall, he meets a slew of animals and has fun in ways he never imagined. As the snowfall becomes heavier and the sky turns menacing—a transition that Bonnet (*Poppy's Best Paper*), working in ink and watercolor, orchestrates beautifully—Pablo's more experienced friends know to head home. Poor Pablo is lost, but just when things look their worst, his parents appear to guide him to safety. Sloat (*Berry Magic*) creates several lovely



Bunnybear may not look like a rabbit but he knows he truly is one, in this sensitive and gently funny story (reviewed on this page).

moments as she describes the world through the eyes of a snow newbie: for example, Pablo is amazed that a snowball can be made small enough to throw and big enough to build a snowman from. This endearing naiveté turns a bit twee, however, when Pablo makes obvious announcements about what snow is “for”: “Snow is for fun!” he says as he sleds downhill. But Bonnet's naïve drawings, rendered in simple ovoid shapes and clean ink lines, propel the story forward, and her animal cast is cute as a collective button. Ages 2–5. *Agent: Abigail Samoun, Red Fox Literary. (Jan.)*

A Season to Bee

Carlos Aponte. Price Stern Sloan, \$17.99 (32p) ISBN 978-1-101-99570-9

Fashion week comes to the meadow in this exuberant exploration of colors and self-expression from fashion illustrator Aponte. Smartphone-wielding, chunky-shoe-clad bugs flock to a fashion show to see the latest styles and to talk trends with Miss V. McQueen, editor of *Buzz* magazine: “‘What should we wear?’ ask the six-legged press./ ‘Who should we follow and how should we dress?’” McQueen offers a literal rainbow of suggestions, and readers get a front-row seat as insect models strut the catwalk, surrounded by flashing cameras and eager attendees (adult fashionistas may notice insect cameos from the likes of Anna Wintour and Bill Cunningham). “Feel light, like the clouds in the sky... wear white!” writes Aponte as fireflies walk the runway in translucent ponchos that catch the glow of their bioluminescent bodies. But whatever color, designer, or style one prefers, Miss V. emphasizes that “the most impor-

tant thing to *bee* is... *you!*” Aponte's jaunty rhymes get the job done, but the book's real pleasures come from poring over the fanciful details of his arthropod couture creations, which feature as many boots, sleeves, and gloves as their wearers' bodies require. Ages 3–5. *(Jan.)*

When You're Feeling Sick

Coy Bowles, illus. by Andy Elkerton.

Doubleday, \$12.99 (32p) ISBN 978-0-399-55286-1

Zac Brown Band guitarist Bowles (*Amy Giggles*) suggests that laughter is the best medicine when one is ill, serving up goof-ball scenarios and strained rhymes in an attempt to get under-the-weather children to crack a smile. The book mostly consists of a litany of things not to do when feeling sick, e.g. “Don't pour chicken noodle soup over your head./ It's made for your mouth and your belly instead” and “Don't be afraid of needles or your nurse/ She's not a wicked witch with a broom and curse./ (Nurses are the sweetest people in the whole universe!).” Elkerton (*How to Catch an Elf*) dutifully presents each scene in bold digital cartoons, even when they turn truly ridiculous (as when a blue-haired boy in pajamas soars through the night sky with toes that have been turned into balloons), but genuine laughs are few. Most of Bowles's suggestions, such as making a “sickness monster face” or singing a Sickness Song to chase germs away, are unlikely to offer much comfort to ailing kids. Ages 3–7. *Illustrator's agency: Shannon Associates. (Jan.)*

Bunnybear

Andrea J. Loney, illus. by Carmen Saldaña.

Albert Whitman, \$16.99 (32p) ISBN 978-0-8075-0938-8

In a story about sticking to what you know to be true, even if it goes against social norms, debut author Loney introduces a bear who feels most like himself when he's doing the sorts of things that bunnies do: “He loved to bounce through the forest, wiggle his nose, and nibble on strawberries. It made him feel free and light and happy.” Bunnybear's fellow bears don't understand him, nor do a warren of bunnies—except for one named Grizzlybun, who declares herself a bear. “I'm burly and loud and I eat whatever I want,” she tells Bunnybear, who responds,

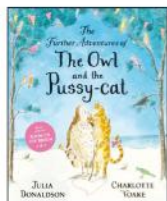
HAPPY RETURNS

Five sequels build on recent (and one not-so-recent) tales.

The Further Adventures of the Owl and the Pussy-cat

Julia Donaldson, illus. by Charlotte Voake. Candlewick, \$16.99 (32p) ISBN 978-0-7636-9081-6

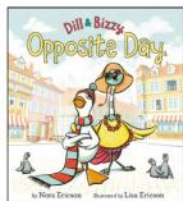
At the close of Edward Lear's classic poem, first published some 145 years ago, the Owl and Pussy-cat were newly married and dancing to the light of the moon. But what happened next? Donaldson (*The Gruffalo*) picks up in the immediate aftermath of that tale as a crow makes off with the Pussy-cat's ring. The two give chase "in a beautiful blue balloon," and Donaldson seeds their travels with references to nonsense places and creatures (the Chunkly Bore, the Jelly Bo Lee) from other Lear poems; indeed, the cat's ring winds up with none other than the Pobble Who Has No Toes. Donaldson's graceful rhymes and rhythms are respectfully true to Lear's original, and Voake's wispy ink-and-watercolor artwork strikes a similarly fine balance between honoring Lear's illustrations while bringing new life to this ever-charming pair of lovers. Ages 3–7. (Jan.)



Dill & Bizzy: Opposite Day

Nora Ericson, illus. by Lisa Ericson. Harper, \$17.99 (40p) ISBN 978-0-06-230453-7

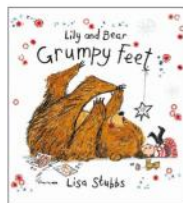
Readers of Dill and Bizzy's first outing already know that they are, respectively, an "odd duck" and a "strange bird," but things get even kookier in this funny sequel, when Bizzy announces that it's Opposite Day. This means dinner for breakfast, speedy morning runs instead of waddles, and a "loud dance party" instead of a quiet rest, all of which leaves Dill miserable. The Ericson sisters are working in near-perfect comic sync, and Lisa Ericson's airy cartooning telegraphs the sense that Dill is trapped in a waking nightmare with no escape. Luckily, a little logical maneuvering—"Bizzy," Dill ventures, "if it is *truly* Opposite Day, we are worst enemies"—is all it takes to persuade Bizzy to give it a rest. Readers thinking about declaring their own Opposite Days may find themselves thinking twice. Ages 4–8. Agent: Sara Crowe, Pippin Properties. (Jan.)



Lily and Bear: Grumpy Feet

Lisa Stubbs. S&S/Wiseman, \$17.99 (32p) ISBN 978-1-4814-7167-1

In this follow-up to *Lily and Bear*, nothing seems right to Stubbs's heroine, Lily: "The day was too rainy, the teapot was too dribbly, and the sunshine color was missing." After Lily again draws her friend Bear into existence, he diagnoses her with "grumpy feet" and sets out to improve her mood. With



its crayony scrawls, bright colors, and childlike renderings, Stubbs's artwork immerses readers in Lily's world, which expands fantastically as Lily and Bear venture into outer space to visit the moon, polish the stars, and locate a baby unicorn. The language can get a bit gushy at times, but Stubbs offers concrete ideas (make a list of things to do, put "happy shoes" on those grumpy feet) that could help some children turn around their own "grouchy and mouchy" days. Ages 4–8. Agent: Jodie Hodges, United Agents. (Jan.)

The Storm Whale in Winter

Benji Davies. Holt, \$16.99 (32p) ISBN 978-1-250-11186-9

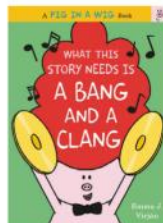
Noi helped care for a young beached whale in Davies's *The Storm Whale*, and although the two parted ways at the end of that book, the whale gets a chance to return the favor in a sequel with its own high stakes. When Noi's father doesn't return after taking his fishing boat out on an icy day, Noi ventures after him ("I *must be careful!*" he thought, stepping out onto the thick ice"). He finds his father's boat, but not his father, and just when Noi's fear reaches its apex, the whale and its pod appear and help push the stranded boat through the ice back to shore. Once again, Davies's careful storytelling and muted artwork draw substantial emotional depth out of Noi and his father's seaside life, a setting both realistic and dashed with magic. Ages 4–8. (Jan.)



What This Story Needs Is a Bang and a Clang

Emma J. Virján. Harper, \$9.99 (40p) ISBN 978-0-06-241530-1

Virján's wig-wearing pig returns in her fourth picture book, a noisy outing that gets underway after the pig builds a bandstand and attracts an outfit of instrument-playing animals. As in the previous books, there's raucousness to spare in Virján's punchy rhymes ("This story also needs a twang, a tootle, a ping, a boom, a brup, a jingle, and a doom-doom-doom"), and children can easily match up the various instruments with the sounds they make, from the "tish" of an elephant's cymbals to the "bwap" of a monkey's trombone. The Pig on a Wig Band's music gets temporarily disrupted when a mouse with a (tiny) tuba frightens an elephant, but it isn't long before they are up, running, and attracting applause. It's good, boisterous, musical fun. Ages 4–8. Agent: Edite Kroll, Edite Kroll Literary. (Jan.)



"That certainly sounds like a bear to me." Working in what looks like a combination of painting and digital techniques, newcomer Saldaña creates an appealing cast of wild animals and an equally inviting woodland landscape, and she doesn't ignore the humorousness of a bear who prefers hopping to stomping or a bunny whose inner ferociousness outstrips her small size. But despite the light-hearted tone, Loney's story has important things to say about identity and acceptance, and is valuable both as entertainment and a conversation-starter. Ages 4–8. *Author's agent: Jill Corcoran, Jill Corcoran Literary. (Jan.)*

Delivery

Aaron Meshon. Atheneum, \$17.99 (48p)
ISBN 978-1-4814-4175-9

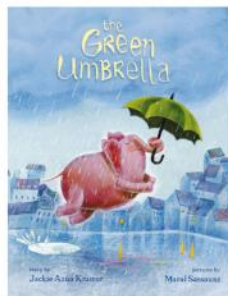
The notion that "love finds a way" has never been truer than in Meshon's not-quite-wordless story, in which a grandmother attempts to ship freshly baked cookies to her grandson for his birthday. Working in the vibrant, almost psychedelic cartoon style of his previous books, Meshon (*The Best Days Are Dog Days*) follows the white box from mail truck to tractor to boat to submarine to whale and so on; an astronaut eventually brings it to the boy's doorstep. Bright red hearts are a recurring visual element: the cookies are heart-shaped, a heart sticker seals the box, and hearts drift like puffs of exhaust from the vehicles, as if the entire endeavor were powered by love. Shifting perspectives and the sheer ridiculousness of the journey make this cookie-delivery relay a delight; fans of the vehicular absurdity of Tom Angleberger and John Hendrix's *McToad Mows Tiny Island* are a natural audience for this story. Readers who gloss over the endpapers will miss a key twist—suffice it to say, one hopes that these boats and trains really do run on love, not fossil fuels. Ages 4–8. *Agent: Rubin Pfeffer, Rubin Pfeffer Content. (Jan.)*

The Green Umbrella

Jackie Azúa Kramer, illus. by Maral Sassouni. NorthSouth, \$17.95 (32p) ISBN 978-0-7358-4218-2

Imagination can turn even simple objects into marvelous things, Elephant discovers as he strolls through a city holding a green umbrella. "I believe you

have my boat," a hedgehog tells him. "I crossed deep oceans on my boat and faced the crash of icy waves." A cat, bear, and rabbit accost Elephant in turn, each with



a dramatic umbrella story. Always courteous, Elephant replies patiently that he's used the umbrella for play himself ("I was a pirate and the umbrella was my sword"). He invites the others to join him underneath it, where they picnic, trade stories, and, in a memorable final spread, soar into the rosy dusk of the sky aboard the umbrella—imagining is better together. Debut author Kramer's imagination-fueled encounter makes good use of fellow newcomer Sassouni's gift for conjuring up fairy-tale landscapes: old houses hunched up against each other, impossibly lumpy hills, and silly contraptions ("I flew through windy skies in my flying machine," says the bear). And Kramer's storytelling passages sustain their lofty tone with no off notes—no easy task. Ages 4–8. *(Jan.)*

How to Be a Bigger Bunny

Florence Minor, illus. by Wendell Minor. HarperCollins/Tegen, \$14.99 (32p) ISBN 978-0-06-235255-2

The team behind *If You Were a Panda Bear* and other titles introduces a bunny whose older siblings scamper off on an adventure without her. "Not again!" Tickle laments, before opting to read a storybook, *How to Be a Bigger Bunny*, instead. The motivational messages of the stories in the book—they include "Never Give Up" and "How to Be a Pirate," which "showed her how to act and talk boldly"—come in handy when Tickle discovers that her siblings have become trapped in a hollow log. Wendell Minor creates a bucolic countryside home for the rabbits in sun-washed scenes of fields bursting with flowers, and a series of dream sequences—including a stint as a pirate and caped superhero soaring across the night sky—offer visual evidence of Tickle's growing confidence. The aphoristic language can be heavy-handed or awkward in places ("The story showed

how important it is to keep trying and to never give up.... When you never give up, you can do amazing things!") but the message is a reassuring one, regardless. Ages 4–8. *(Jan.)*

I Do Not Like Al's Hat

Erin McGill. Greenwillow, \$17.99 (32p)
ISBN 978-0-06-245576-5

Herb, a magician's rabbit, tries to find a new gig in McGill's first solo picture book. "I do like the spotlight. I do like the applause. And I do like the carrots," Herb confesses, but constantly being stuffed into and yanked out of Abracadabra Al's hat has taken a toll on his ears, which he carefully bandages up before hitting the road. Sitting at a juice bar, Herb contemplates life as a wild rabbit (as part of a bunny biker gang) and a veggie farmer, but neither imagined scenario goes well. That leaves a job as a pet rabbit, and after answering a classified ad placed by a four-year-old named Sophie, Herb finds the home he's been seeking. McGill brings a lot of energy to her scraggly mixed-media collages, but the compositions can be busy or hard to decipher—when Herb realizes that he isn't "cut out for the wild life," he's shown sprawled out on the ground beside his motorcycle, but it's not really clear what happened. Although Herb's pared-down narration should prove encouraging to emerging readers, Herb never gets much of a personality. Ages 4–8. *(Jan.)*

Boat of Dreams

Rogério Coelho. Tilbury House, \$22.95 (80p)
ISBN 978-0-88448-528-5

Originally published in Brazil, Coelho's enigmatic wordless tale bridges picture book and graphic novel territory as it traces the surprising encounter between an elderly man in a ramshackle seaside cottage and a child in a distant city. After the wiry, mustachioed man discovers a note in a bottle, he's inspired to draw a fantastical flying machine, which resembles half of a sailing ship augmented with a nest of gears. The man sends his drawing back to sea, and the action shifts to the city, where a boy finds it in a letter in front of his home; how it got there from the bottle isn't revealed. After drawing himself (and his cat) into the picture, the boy sails the ship to meet the man in his dreams. Coelho (*Books Do Not Have Wings*) stages

his story in dramatically lit, sharp-edged, and distinctly surreal panels and panoramas; his limited palette of blues and sepias conveys a strong sense of isolation, particularly in the boy's chilly, deserted city. It's a haunting story of inexplicable connections, and Coelho resists spelling out its mysteries, letting readers draw their own conclusions. Ages 7–up. (Jan.)

Fiction

Follow That Tiny-Dactyl

Dustin Hansen. Feiwel and Friends, \$13.99 (224p) ISBN 978-1-250-09021-8

Video-game creator Hansen mashes up dinosaurs, futuristic technology, extreme sports, and other ever-popular story elements in his first novel, which launches the Microsaurs series. Nine-year-old Danny seems destined for adventure: his father is an inventor for SpyZoom Technologies, and his best friend Lin Song is a “skateboarding daredevil.” While using SpyZoom Invisible Communicators to follow Lin during her qualifying run in the town's Under 12 X-treme Games, Danny sees a small red-orange figure smash into its camera lens as she races down the ramp. Thanks to the GPS device that the mysterious creature, a tiny dinosaur, swipes from Lin's helmet, the kids track the culprit to the junglelike lab of the oddball Professor Penfold, who cares for a cache of Microsaurs he rescued from Peru. Danny and Lin's quest to retrieve the tracking device and return home in time for Lin's championship run hits a snag after they are inadvertently shrunk down to the size of “very squashable” bugs. Hansen's peppy cartoons provide an up-close look at all the smaller-than-life action in this high-energy escapade. Ages 7–10. *Agent: Gemma Cooper, Bent Agency.* (Jan.)

★ The Harlem Charade

Natasha Tarpley. Scholastic Press, \$16.99 (320p) ISBN 978-0-545-78387-3

Tarpley (*Destiny's Gift*) introduces a diverse trio of 12-year-olds trekking through the streets of Harlem to solve an increasingly complicated mystery. Jin, whose Korean grandparents run a bodega, is intrigued by the stealthy good deeds of an African-American girl, Alex, who is

ashamed of her family's wealth and keeps it secret. Jin contrives to work with Alex on a school project; circumstances quickly throw the girls together with tiny brown-skinned, dreadlocked Elvin, newly arrived



from Berkeley, whose grandfather was assaulted and is in a coma. As the threesome focuses on figuring out who attacked him, their relationship evolves from an uneasy alliance to a warm fellowship as clues lead them to uncover layers of local corruption. The fast-paced story takes readers to landmarks such as the Studio Museum in Harlem, the Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture, and St. Nicholas Park, as the amateur detectives learn about the neighborhood's history in the tumultuous 1960s. While the history lessons are occasionally a bit heavy-handed, Tarpley creates a strong sense of Harlem's rich past and present, conveys the importance of art, and raises thoughtful questions about service and justice. Ages 8–12. (Jan.)

The Impossible Clue

Sarah Rubin. Chicken House, \$17.99 (304p) ISBN 978-0-545-94025-2

Everyone in school knows that 12-year-old Alice Jones is the go-to girl for figuring things out, so it isn't a surprise when classmate Sammy asks her to help with a missing-person case. His father runs a science laboratory, Delgado Industries, and the top scientist, who was working on a project involving invisibility, has disappeared. Alice is goaded into taking the case when Sammy's father decides that she will be a good decoy for the press while the “real” detectives search, but as he and others soon learn, underestimating Alice isn't a good idea. Alice evades the goons following her and uses logic to weigh the clues she uncovers as Rubin's (*Someday Dancer*) mystery winds toward a gratifying conclusion. Though Alice can be prickly, her family, including her journalist father and twin sister, Della, is her soft spot, and Alice's emotional growth as is as satisfying as the mystery she unravels. Observant and per-

sistent, Alice is an easy character to cheer on, and the ethical quandaries that arise lend added depth to her story. Ages 8–12. *Agent: Lindsey Fraser, Fraser Ross.* (Jan.)

The Matchstick Castle

Keir Graff. Putnam, \$16.99 (288p) ISBN 978-1-101-99622-5

Brian Brown is enduring “the worst summer ever” before sixth grade after his father sends him from Boston to the town of Boring, Ill., where he's forced to help test-drive his Uncle Gary's summer-school software program. Then Brian and his (initially frosty) cousin Nora discover the nearby Matchstick Castle, a haphazard seven-story wooden house (complete with “a big wooden boat” on top), inhabited by Cosmo van Dash and his family of eccentric adventurers. As the madcap plot progresses, Brian and Nora trap giant Amazonian wasps, rescue Cosmo's uncle from being trapped on the seventh floor, and defend the castle from a bureaucrat intent on demolishing it. Brian is an observant, funny, and relatable protagonist, and the van Dashes are very much in the tradition of large, offbeat families from classic children's literature. Graff (*The Other Felix*) fashions another fascinating character in the Matchstick Castle itself through detailed descriptions of its peculiar layout and secrets. Given the van Dash family's knack for adventure, one can only hope Graff has plans for more “Boring” stories. Ages 8–12. *Agent: Josh Getzler, Hannigan Salky Getzler.* (Jan.)

Molly & Pim and the Millions of Stars

Martine Murray. Knopf, \$16.99 (192p) ISBN 978-0-399-55040-9

Both down-to-earth and ethereal, Murray's (*How to Make a Bird*) novel introduces 10-year-old Molly, who lives with her mother in a house that “feel[s] like a Gypsy caravan” inside and has “not one proper corner or straight line.” Molly conceals the “not-quite-normal” parts of her life from her practical best friend, Ellen, including her “muddled and dreaming” Mama's preoccupations with herbs, poetry, and other projects. So when Mama concocts a potion intended to grow a tree to block them from their horrid neighbors—but instead turns into a tree herself—Molly hides this turn of events from

Ellen. Instead, she confides in Pim, a reclusive boy who believes in the interconnectedness of all living things, revealing that her sentient "Mama tree" rearranges its branches to create a bed for her and bears mysterious fruit to feed her. Murray's gentle, image-rich narrative takes on gripping urgency as Molly and Pim try to protect the tree from her neighbors' chainsaw. Tinged with fantasy, this is a thoughtful exploration of difference, as well as the ties between friends, parents and children, and humans and nature. Ages 8–12. (*Jan.*)



★ The Someday Birds

Sally J. Pla, illus. by Julie McLaughlin. Harper, \$16.99 (336p) ISBN 978-0-06-244576-6

Charlie feels safest at home in California, where his family tolerates his obsessive rituals and fascination with birds. But home isn't the same without his journalist father, who is far away in Virginia being treated for a brain injury he incurred in Afghanistan. Charlie hates change and travel, but in order to see his father, he's willing to endure a cross-country road trip with his twin brothers, boy-crazy older sister, and a pink-haired woman from Sarajevo serving as their chaperone. Both eye-opening and revealing, Pla's debut novel showcases some of America's greatest landmarks while tracing a fearful boy's gradual emergence from his shell as he learns to trust strangers and try new things. Through Charlie's perspective (it's implied, though not stated outright, that he has OCD and is on the autism spectrum), readers encounter many natural wonders (including several birds, shown in postcardlike images from McLaughlin), meet fascinating characters, and learn about the connection between the children's chaperone and their father. Offering a mixture of suspense, mystery, tragedy and humor, Pla's story captures both the literal and figurative meanings of journey. Ages 8–12. *Author's agent: Taylor Martindale Kean, Full Circle Literary.* (*Jan.*)

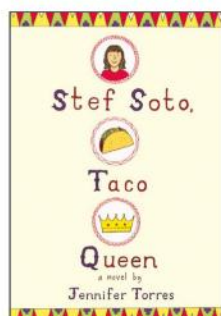


Stef Soto, Taco Queen

Jennifer Torres. Little, Brown, \$16.99 (176p) ISBN 978-0-316-30686-7

The bones of this polished debut are familiar—overprotective parents, seventh-grade social struggles—but Torres

fleshes them out with authenticity, humor, and heart. The only child of immigrant parents, Stef is embarrassed by her father's rundown taco truck, Tía Perla, which he considers part of the family;



after helping Papi serve customers, Stef watches as he locks the vehicle's kitchen door "and gives it a quick tap—the way you might congratulate an old friend with a pat on the back." Tía Perla plays a key role in the development of both the plot and Stef's character: her growing self-confidence helps her deflect ongoing mean-spirited comments about the truck from her onetime friend Julia, she summons the courage to speak up at a meeting debating regulations that could put her father and other mobile food vendors out of business, and she uses Tía Perla to save the class dance during a power outage. Stef's fresh, honest voice will resonate with a broad swath of readers, as will the relatable struggles she negotiates. Ages 8–12. *Agent: Jennifer Laughran, Andrea Brown Literary.* (*Jan.*)



Almost Autumn

Marianne Kaurin, trans. from the Norwegian by Rosie Hedger. Scholastic/Levine, \$17.99 (288p) ISBN 978-0-545-88965-0

Kaurin's subtly devastating novel traces the gradual disintegration of Jewish life in Oslo, Norway, during the last months of 1942. While focusing on dreamy-eyed 15-year-old Ilse Stern and her crush on neighbor Hermann Rod, the story unfolds from several points of view, including those of Hermann (whose sudden interest in painting is a cover for his work in the Resistance) and a non-Jewish neighbor who is unwillingly thrust into an important role in the removal of Jews from the city. Even as daily life for Jews in Oslo takes on ominous changes (Ilse's school is taken over by German soldiers, customers dwindle at her father's tailor shop, and Jews' identification papers are stamped with the letter *J*), Ilse and her older sister, Sonja, are lost in their personal dreams, pushing aside the increasingly threatening situation until the day their father is

arrested and their own futures suddenly seem uncertain. In her first novel, Norwegian author Kaurin doesn't flinch from describing the details of the ultimate fate of the Stern family, offering an intimate, chilling look at an individual family's experience of the Holocaust. Ages 12–up. (*Jan.*)



The Book Jumper

Mechthild Gläser, trans. from the German by Romy Fursland. Feiwel and Friends, \$17.99 (384p) ISBN 978-1-250-08666-2

Fifteen-year-old Amy Lennox has grown up in Germany, but after a traumatic spring she talks her mother into taking them back to her birthplace, the island of Stormsay off the coast of Scotland. Amy's family and another clan, the Macalisters, are keepers of a secret library of texts that date back centuries, and they can "jump" into stories, interacting with their characters, so long as they stay "in the margins, between the lines." But a thief is also jumping into books and stealing the authors' ideas, ruining the books. Amy and Will Macalister try to solve the mystery before more stories are destroyed. Amy also learns the identity of her father in a less-developed story line. The lore of the two families and German author Gläser's descriptions of Stormsay and the library are meticulous and moody, creating a gothic atmosphere that serves this star-crossed love story well. Meetings with book characters, like Kipling's Shere Khan and Dickens's Oliver Twist, offer entertaining moments that balance the grimmer elements of the story as it builds to a bittersweet ending. Ages 12–up. (*Jan.*)



★ City of Saints & Thieves

Natalie C. Anderson. Putnam, \$18.99 (432p) ISBN 978-0-399-54758-4

Tina has been living on the streets of (the fictional) Sangu City in Kenya since her mother's murder at the home of Roland Greyhill, her mother's employer and the father of Tina's half-sister, Kiki. Recruited by the Goondas, a gang of orphans and street kids, Tina is the only girl trained to become a foot soldier. As she learns skills to become an accomplished thief, she lives by a series of rules, including "Rule 3: thieves don't have friends" and "Rule 15: a rule from my

mother: run." As Tina gets closer to exacting revenge for her mother's death, she discovers that she may not have all the facts. Debut author Anderson, a former aid worker, deftly addresses issues in the region in this fast-paced thriller, highlighting the struggles of refugees in war-torn eastern Congo and the human rights violations that women in particular face. Using a smattering of Swahili, Sheng (street slang), and French, Anderson adeptly uses language to bring Tina's world to life as she carefully traces her heroine's history to reveal a shocking truth. Ages 12—up. *Agent: Faye Bender, Book Group. (Jan.)*

In Her Skin: Growing Up Trans
Trina Sotira. MuseWrite, \$15 paper (218p)
ISBN 978-0-9899609-2-2

In Sotira's story of a teenager coming out as transgender, high school senior Tirzah Maxon is happiest when living as Troy—something that only seems possible doing during anonymous trips to hang out with skateboarders in downtown Chicago. Additionally, Tirzah loves best friend Heidi in a more-than-friends kind of way, but it's unclear whether Heidi feels the same, and Heidi's conservative Muslim family wouldn't condone such a relationship even if she did. As graduation looms and Tirzah pursues a soccer scholarship, the teenager bemoans having to play on the girls' team, struggles in dealing with Heidi and other classmates, and gradually feels empowered to live full-time as Troy. Sotira (*Shifts: An Anthology of Women's Growth Through Change*) writes sensitively about Tirzah's gender dysphoria; the teen's tender friendship with Heidi and the realistically varied reactions to Tirzah's transitioning are also handled well. Readers may wish for more resolution concerning Tirzah's future with Heidi, who drops out of the story somewhat unceremoniously toward the end, but Sotira's first novel remains a thoughtful portrait of one teenager's incremental progress toward greater self-knowledge and acceptance. Ages 12—up. (*BookLife*)

After the Fall

Kate Hart. Farrar, Straus and Giroux, \$17.99 (288p) ISBN 978-0-374-30269-6

High school seniors Raychel and Matt

have been best friends forever, and any day now, Matt is going to tell her that he loves her. But while he's dawdling, his younger brother, Andrew—the designated screw-up to Matt's responsible A student—makes his move. In addition to the questions of brotherly rivalry, secrecy, and family dynamics introduced by this turn of events, Raychel is also struggling with a nonconsensual sexual encounter and worrying about her future, since there's no money for college. Hart's debut novel has a lot going for it—well-defined and believable major and minor characters, in particular—as well as a lot going on. The book takes up consent, slut shaming, issues of class and (to a lesser extent) race, unrequited love, and competition between siblings—and then adds a tragic accident and the resulting guilt and fractures. Although it can feel overloaded as a result, Hart holds it all together and closes with an ending that retains a measure of hope without becoming unrealistically perfect. Ages 14—up. *Agent: Adriann Ranta, Foundry Literary + Media. (Jan.)*

Nonfiction

Death on the River of Doubt: Theodore Roosevelt's Amazon Adventure

Samantha Seiple. Scholastic Press, \$17.99 (224p) ISBN 978-0-545-70916-3

This gripping chronicle of a 1914 expedition that changed the map of Brazil highlights a post-presidential accomplishment of Teddy Roosevelt. Setting the scene, Seiple (*Lincoln's Spymaster*) writes that, after arriving in Rio de Janeiro for a speaking tour, the "danger-loving, thrill-seeking" Roosevelt was recruited by the Brazilian government to lead, along with local explorer Cândido Mariano da Silva Rondon, a mission to chart an unexplored and unmapped waterway in the Amazon jungle, known as the River of Doubt. Accompanied by his son Kermit and an entourage of Brazilian *camaradas* (canoeists and other laborers), Roosevelt embarked on what became as much a journey of survival as discovery. Incorporating quotations from the journals of Roosevelt and the expedition's other principal members, Seiple illuminates the party's life-threat-

ening struggles with thundering rapids, punishing rain, disease, injuries, hostile native tribes, insubordination, dwindling provisions, and plummeting morale. Simultaneously, Seiple's portrait of Roosevelt reveals his perseverance, good humor, selflessness, and compassion, despite potentially fatal malaria and an infected leg wound. Archival photos help draw readers into this death-defying drama. Ages 12—up. *Agent: Jessica Regel, Foundry Literary + Media. (Jan.)*

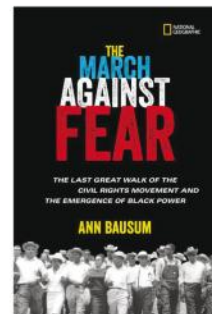
★ The March Against Fear: The Last Great Walk of the Civil Rights Movement and the Emergence of Black Power

Ann Bausum. National Geographic Children's, \$18.99 (144p) ISBN 978-1-4263-2665-3

In a powerful and timely book, Bausum (*Stonewall*) focuses her attention on the last great march of the civil rights era, the March Against Fear, from Memphis, Tenn., to Jackson, Miss., in June 1966. Initiated by James Meredith in an effort to make Mississippi a less fearful place for black Americans, the march swelled to 15,000 people and resulted in 4,000 black

Mississippian voter registrations; it also splintered the major civil rights organizations of the day and gave rise to Stokely Carmichael's Black Power movement.

Bausum dissects these internal divisions with great sensitivity, lauding Martin Luther King Jr.'s peacemaking powers while illuminating the conditions that provoked others to more confrontational protest. Abundant details disclose the extent of segregation and racism, the pivotal role of law enforcement authorities, and how fraught protecting the marchers could be: state troopers used tear gas and physical assault to "suppress an act of racial defiance" when marchers tried to pitch their tents on public land. This exemplary look into civil rights history concludes with perspective and encouragement regarding ongoing struggles for social change. Archival photos and source notes are included. Ages 12—up. (*Jan.*)



“Copyright protection is truly important to all—authors, publishers, and booksellers.”

Digital Piracy

An author calls for the publishing industry to take action against copyright infringement

BY LINDA SPENCER

Book sales are down. Whether you are an author, publisher, or bookseller, eroding book sales affect you. As members of the book community, we all have that in common.

The reasons given for falling book sales are usually the lack of a few blockbuster books, the competition from the many types of digital entertainment, and the huge amount of time people spend on social media. Rarely does the discussion mention digital piracy as a source of eroding book sales. Yet it's happening on a large scale. It really is necessary, in 2016, to acknowledge blatant infringement of copyrights when discussing sliding book sales.

Just Google a current bestseller (or any book title). You will undoubtedly find free downloads, many that say “ePub and PDF for free.” This copyright infringement on the Internet affects sales figures of all books: traditionally published trade books, academic books, and self-published books; fiction and nonfiction; and, yes, even bestsellers.

Copyright protection is truly important to all—authors, publishers, and booksellers. Our founders knew the importance of copyright protection. In the United States, copyright protection started with the formation of the U.S. constitutional republic. Our Constitution, ratified in 1788, includes in article 1 (the

article outlining the duties of Congress), section 8: “The Congress shall have Power To... promote the Progress of Science and useful Arts, by securing for limited Times to Authors and Inventors the exclusive Right to their respective Writings and Discoveries.”

In the 21st century, however, Congress seems to forget that paragraph. Congress has consistently failed to pass an effective digital copyright law and cannot seem even to improve the current digital copyright law, the Digital Millennium Copyright Act, passed in 1998. The DMCA is woefully inadequate.

In addition, the DMCA holds the copyright holder, usually the author, responsible for monitoring copyright infringement. That means an author (or an author's designated agent) holding a copyright must monitor the vast Internet for copyright infringements, and must file take-down notices to those websites that infringe on the author's copyright.

As authors have found, when one posting of a free download of a book is taken down, often another posting quickly appears. The DMCA fails to provide adequate protection or to enact realistic procedures for protecting copyrights in the digital age.

Numerous writers' organizations, such as the American Society of Journalists, the Authors Guild, and the National Writers Union, have addressed the issues of copyright and digital piracy for over a decade. The Authors Guild, in its 2015 letter to the congressional judiciary committee urging stronger copyright laws, quotes the Association of American Publishers as acknowledging, “The publishing industry as a whole loses \$80 to \$100 million to piracy annually.” Digital piracy erodes book sales and costs authors, publishers and booksellers money—and it must be stopped.



Why should people even visit bookstores when it's so easy to download books for free on the Internet? Many people, especially those born in the digital age, think first about free downloads (which aren't free in terms of their cost to the industry) when

they want books. They do not think first of purchasing books. We have to change that mind-set if we want the book to endure. Together, authors, publishers, and booksellers could create an effective media campaign to raise awareness of copyright law and digital piracy. We could thereby educate the public, particularly the younger generations, and change their mind-set regarding free downloads.

United, authors, publishers, and booksellers could also convince members of Congress of the ineffectiveness of the DMCA. At first glance, it seems as though it would be a David-vs.-Goliath battle, given the size, wealth, and influence in Congress of the major players of the digital-communications industry. But there is great strength in numbers. There are far more authors, publishers, and booksellers than major players in digital communications. Together, our very large book community can create an effective public relations campaign that educates people about copyright law and changes the public's free-download mind-set. United we can persistently lobby Congress to establish a stronger and more effective digital copyright law.

Digital piracy of books will not stop unless the community of authors, publishers, and booksellers takes the initiative and unites. We must take concerted action now. ■

Linda Spencer's most recent book, Writing Well in the 21st Century: The Five Essentials, is published by Rowman & Littlefield. She lives in Massachusetts.

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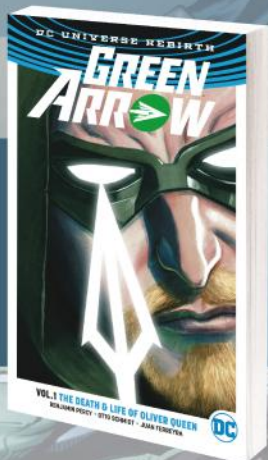


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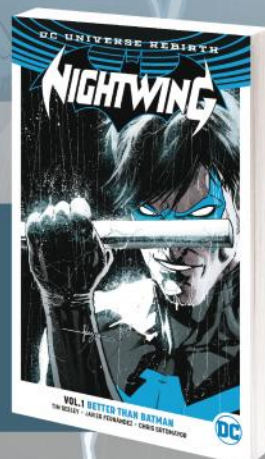


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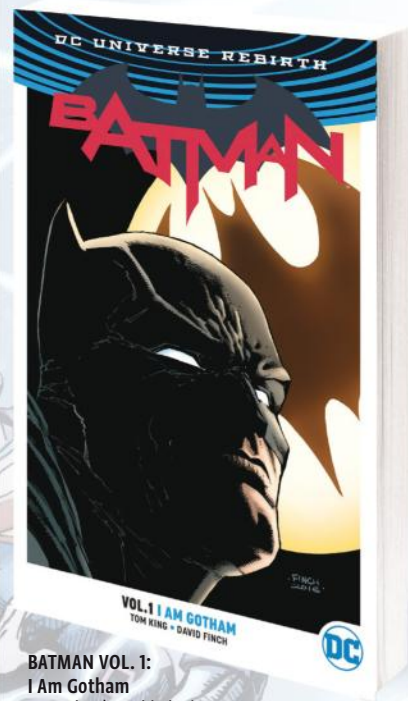
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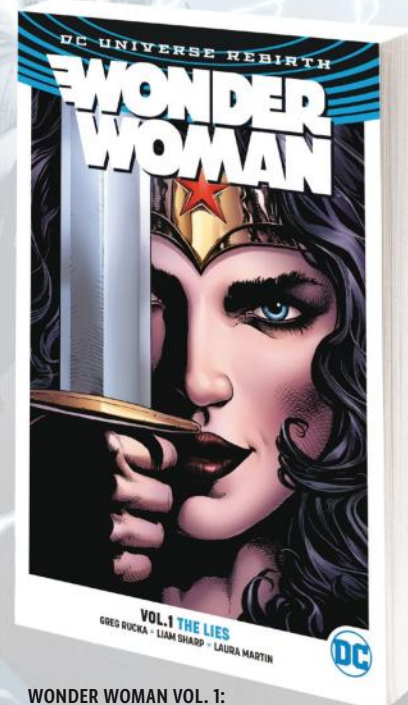
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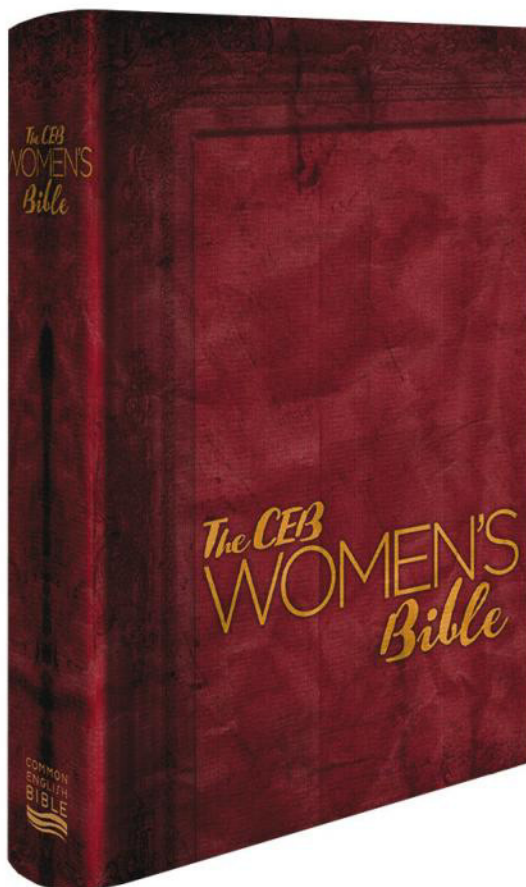
Scholars Tackle Questions About Racism, Injustice, and the Real Islam

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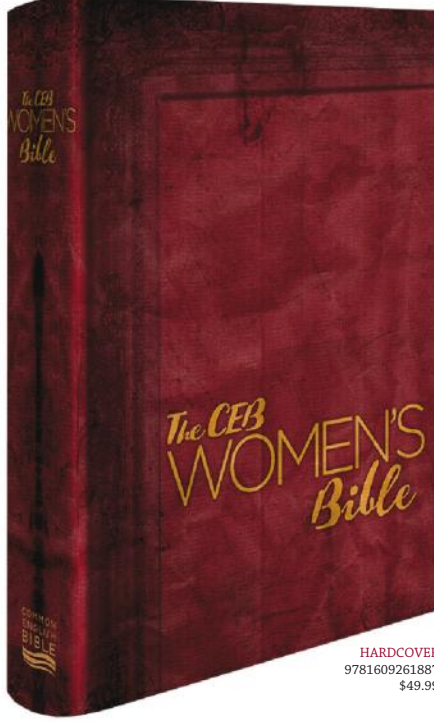


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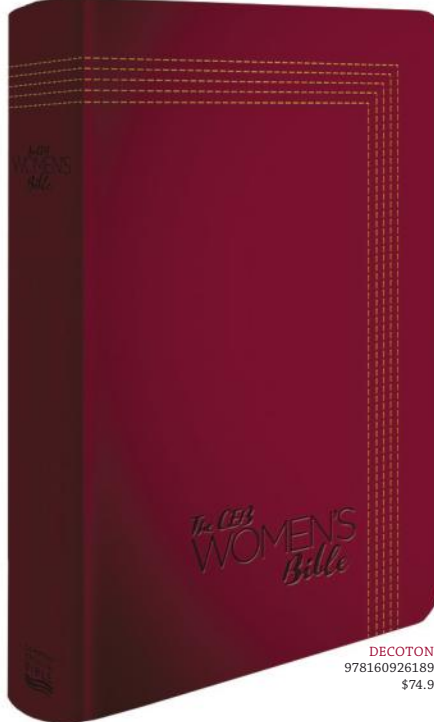


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As Racial Tensions Lead The News, Books Follow

Scholars dig deep to find the roots of racism in America and propose solutions

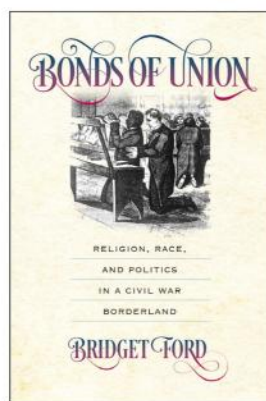
BY ROBIN FARMER

The complicated intersections of race, racism, and religion and the generational impact these intersections have had on African-Americans are a fertile field for study and for scholarly religion publishing, as witnessed by the number of new and forthcoming books dealing with that fraught intersection. Major university, academic, and trade presses are exploring the journey from the religious conversion of enslaved men and women before 1865 to the Bible's continuing profound influence on people of color at crucial moments of American history. The books range through the Civil War, Reconstruction, the Jim Crow era, and the Black Lives Matter movement birthed by controversial police killings and demands for an end to systemic racism.

THE EARLY IMPACT

University of North Carolina Press's list this year includes three books based on archival research that flesh out the experiences of blacks and whites at crucial moments in American history, uncovering knowledge to help "us understand our present condition—aiming, you might say, to create a more perfect union," UNC senior executive editor Elaine Maisner says.

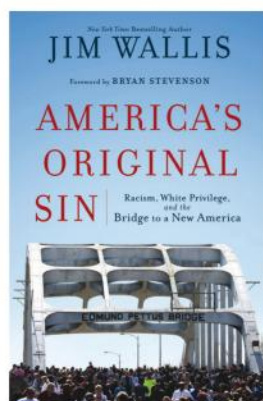
African American Religion and Politics in the Age of Emancipation by Matthew Harper (Univ. of North Carolina, out now) shows how black Southerners' theology shaped nearly every major economic and political decision made in the South from



emancipation to the early years of Jim Crow. An assistant professor of history and Africana studies at Mercer University, Harper demonstrates how African-American Protestants cast themselves into biblical narratives as a way to see their own struggle for racial justice as part of God's plan for humanity.

Afro-Creole Spiritualism in Nineteenth-Century New Orleans by Emily Suzanne Clark (Univ. of North Carolina, out now) argues that Afro-Creole Spiritualism—which through séances summoned messages from such departed souls as Abraham Lincoln—provided a forum to criticize injustices and promote political activism at a time when free blacks endured violent resistance to racial equality. In this first detailed history of the Cercle Harmonique—a group of educated African-descended men from Creole Catholic families—Clark, an assistant professor of religious studies at Gonzaga University, maps how religion mediated New Orleans' cultural, political, and social changes from the late antebellum period through Reconstruction.

Bonds of Union: Religion, Race, and Politics in a Civil War Borderland by Bridget Ford



(Univ. of North Carolina, out now) reveals an instance of surprising political unity during the Civil War. Ford, who teaches history at California State University, East Bay, writes about religious, racial, and political attachments of people living in the Ohio-Kentucky borderlands on the Ohio River, uncovering the work that went into bridging stark differences among the inhabitants, efforts that contributed to slavery's end and the Union's persistence.

"These books, based on astonishing archival research—Clark uncovered the actual minutes recorded over 20 years of séances held by the men in the Cercle Harmonique—bring alive the experiences of blacks and whites at crucial moments in American history," Maisner says. "They reveal how such major American identifiers as race and religion have intersected and influenced each other in the past and continue to do so in the present."

In *America's Original Sin: Racism, White Privilege, and the Bridge to a New America* (Brazos, out now) Jim Wallis delivers a prophetic and personal call to action to overcome the racism so ingrained in American society. Activist Wallis (*God's Politics*) urges Christians—particularly white Christians—to work for racial justice and healing; he asserts that honest, grown-up conversations can lead to change.

The Genesis of Liberation: Biblical Interpretation in the Antebellum Narratives of the Enslaved by Emerson B. Powery and Rodney S. Sadler Jr. (Westminster John Knox, out now) analyzes how the Bible functioned in pre-Civil War freedom narratives and explores how enslaved African-Americans used Scripture as a source of liberation, empowerment, and literacy. Powery is a professor of biblical studies at Messiah College. Sadler is an associate professor of Bible at Union Presbyterian Seminary.

Orbis Books continues its long history of publishing black and womanist theology with *No Crystal Stair: Womanist Spirituality* (out now) by Diana L. Hayes, professor emerita of systematic theology

Religion & Spirituality Update

at Georgetown University. The collection of essays, prayers, and meditations is intended to lay the foundation for a womanist spirituality that is rooted in the abiding faith of African-American women, a faith that has long inspired them as they struggle to support their families and build their communities.

FORGING A FREE IDENTITY

Brand New Theology: The Wal-Martization of T.D. Jakes and the New Black Church by Paula McGee (Orbis, Mar. 2017) critiques the popular health-and-wealth message targeted especially to black Christian women. A self-described public theologian, McGee argues that the preaching and writing of Texas megachurch pastor T.D. Jakes is representative of the New Black Church, which offers a new form of prosperity gospel and signifies what she calls “the Wal-Martization of religion.” McGee’s book “offers a critical window on the emerging New Black Church, a phenomenon of broad significance for American religion and culture,” says Orbis publisher Robert Ellsberg.

From Chalice Press comes *Nobody Cries When We Die: God, Community and Surviving to Adulthood* by Patrick B. Reyes (Dec.). Author, theologian, educator, and institutional strategist and organizer Reyes tells how—with the support of family, clergy, educators, friends, and neighbors—he survived childhood in an impoverished community infested with gangs and rife with economic and racial oppression. Writing to engage young adults of color, Reyes shows how navigating violence redefines one’s sense of purpose and shapes leaders.

“We continue looking for stories from those on society’s margins as these previously disenfranchised communities find their voices and become empowered and encouraged to speak and write,” Brad Lyons, president of Chalice Press,

says. “Race factors into so many of today’s issues—interfaith relations, mass incarceration, law enforcement and crime, immigration and refugees, education, income inequality. The list goes on and on.”

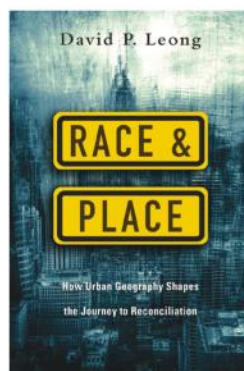
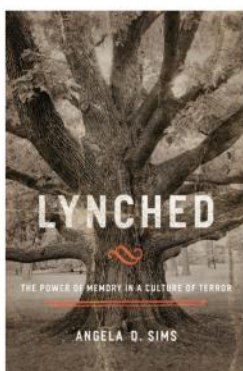
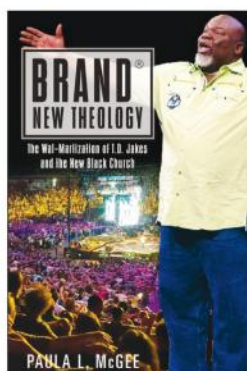
The Ground Has Shifted: The Future of the Black Church in Post-Racial America by Walter Earl Fluker (New York Univ., Nov.) explores the dilemmas black churches must resolve if they are to remain central in black life. Fluker, professor of ethical leadership at Boston University School of Theology, argues that the older race-based language and metaphors of religious discourse have

By examining people and movements typically cast as “secular,” Sorett, an associate professor of religion and African-American studies at Columbia University, offers insights that trouble the boundaries of what counts as “sacred” in scholarship on African-American religion and culture.

Forthcoming race-themed books for 2017 also explore contemporary issues. *Things Not Seen: Race, Religion, and Ralph Ellison’s Invisible Theology* by M. Cooper Harris (New York Univ., May 2017) argues that diverse iterations of religious traditions offer lenses to understand the work of a prominent and problematic

thinker. This is the first book for Harris, an assistant professor in the department of religious studies at Indiana University.

New World A-Coming: Black Religion and Racial Identity During the Great Migration by Judith Weisenfeld (New York Univ., Feb. 2017) shows



outlived their uses in the era of Black Lives Matter. He suggests ways for a new generation of church leaders, scholars, and activists to reclaim the black church’s historical identity and to infuse character, civility, and a sense of community among congregants.

From Baylor University Press comes *Lynched: The Power of Memory in a Culture of Terror* by Angela Sims (out now). Rooted in oral histories, *Lynched* chronicles the history and aftermath of lynching in America. Ethicist Sims, dean of academic programs and a professor at Saint Paul School of Theology, uses the stories of African-American elders to show how, in a culture of violence, domination, and fear, lynching functioned as a form of domestic terrorism.

Spirit in the Dark: A Religious History of Racial Aesthetics by Josef Sorett (Oxford Univ., out now) shows that religion was an essential influence for black writers and intellectuals from the Harlem Renaissance to the Black Arts Movement.

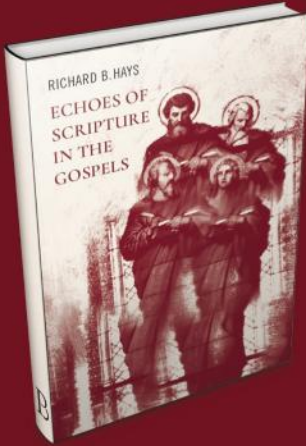
that many black southern migrants and Caribbean immigrants rejected conventional American racial classifications. Weisenfeld, a professor in the department of religion at Princeton University, explores how these alternative visions of black history and racial identity reshaped the black religious landscape.

Race and Place: How Urban Geography Shapes the Journey to Reconciliation by David P. Leong (IVP, Feb. 2017) reveals the profound ways geographic structures and systems sustain racial divisions. Leong, associate professor of missiology at Seattle Pacific University and Seminary, uncovers systemic problems that maintain de facto segregation and are rarely addressed in conversations about racial justice. ■

Robin Farmer is a journalist whose work has appeared in the Washington Post and elsewhere; she also writes screenplays and short stories and is working on a debut YA novel.

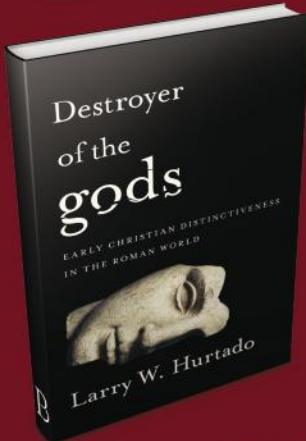
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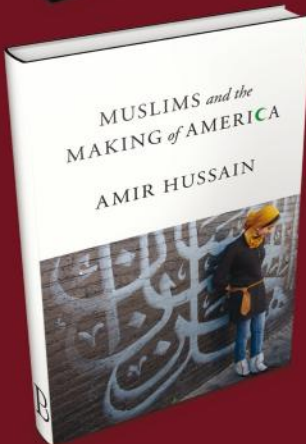
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Educating the New Activists

Books reflect a renewed passion for justice, and more are coming

BY A.B. WESTRICK

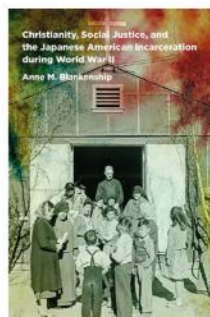
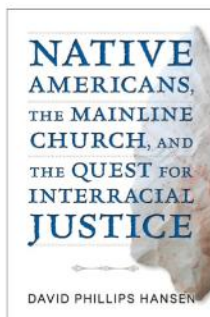
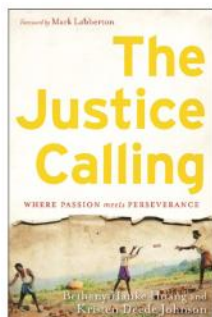
“Americans are remembering again how to organize en masse for social justice,” Brad Lyons, publisher and president at Chalice

Press, says, adding, “We want to help equip this new wave of social-justice activists.” And his press is not the only one.

Robert N. Hosack, executive editor at Baker Academic and Brazos Press, says he acquired new justice-themed titles “with the awareness that the younger generation is interested and intrigued by issues of social justice.” In *Return to Justice: Six Movements that Reignited Our Contemporary Evangelical Conscience* (Brazos, out now), Soong-Chan Rah and Gary Vanderpool focus on the history of evangelical activism, providing an overview of post–World War II social-justice and compassion ministries. The book offers a historical framework for the activism of contemporary Christians.

In *The Justice Calling: Where Passion Meets Perseverance* (Brazos, out now), Bethany Hanke Hoang and Kristen Deede Johnson lay out a comprehensive biblical theology of justice, with joy as the secret weapon to sustain Christians in the work of fostering justice. Hoang is director of the Institute for Biblical Justice; Johnson is associate professor at Western Theological Seminary.

Advocating for Justice: An Evangelical Vision for Transforming Systems and Structures by Stephen Offutt, et al. (Baker Academic, out now) also highlights the biblical mandate for justice. The five coauthors, among them seminary professors and the mayor of Davis, Calif., focus on the theological rationale for advocacy and include specific tools and strategies for action—what Hosack calls “the how-tos.” In March 2017, Westminster John Knox



Press will release its own “how-to”: *No Innocent Bystanders: Becoming an Ally in the Struggle for Justice*. Shannon Craig-Snell, professor of theology at Louisville Presbyterian Theological Seminary, and Christopher J. Doucot, cofounder of the Hartford Catholic Worker community, look at the lessons of history and the role of forging alliances in social-justice movements. They analyze what works, what doesn’t, and why.

Chalice Press is publishing *Unified We Are a Force: How Faith and Labor Can Overcome America’s Inequalities* (out now) by Joerg Rieger, professor of theology at Vanderbilt, and his wife, activist Rosemarie Henkel-Rieger. The book sets out to help the 99% understand what is happening in their world today, discover how faith is deeply connected with work, and learn how to make a difference. “After digging deep into the challenges facing union activism, it shifts into the how-to of weaving labor and faith together,” Lyons says.

In *Native Americans, the Mainline Church, and the Quest for Interracial Justice* (Chalice, Nov.), pastor David Phillips Hansen argues that “the Native American drive for self-governance is the most important civil rights struggle of our time—a struggle too often covered up.” Hansen makes a case for the church to have a role in helping solve the problems of racism, poverty, environmental degradation, and violence.

Liberating Sexuality: Justice Between the Sheets (Chalice, out now) by Miguel A. De La Torre challenges Christians to

think about sexuality and God in new ways. Grounded in biblical scholarship, De La Torre—professor of social ethics and Latinx studies at Iliff School of Theology—

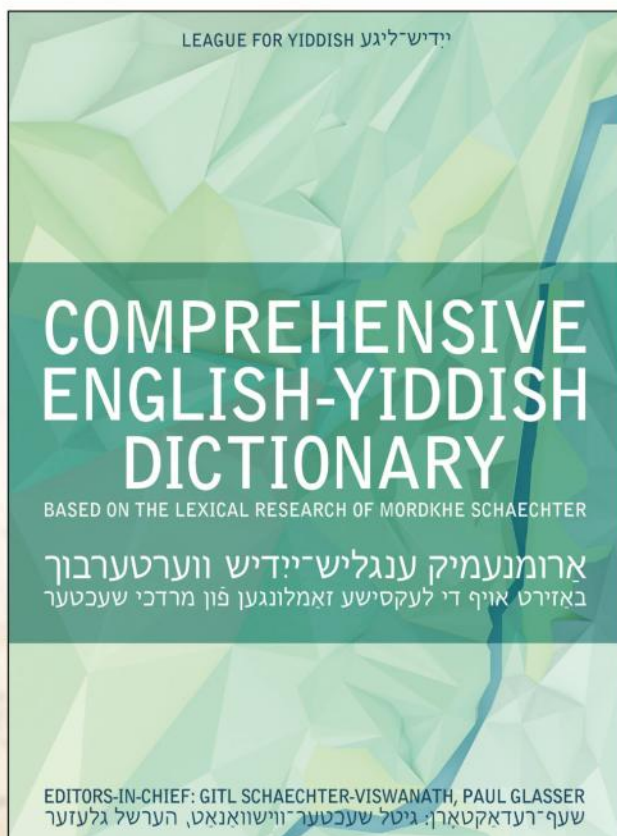
argues in this compilation of essays that Christianity has been wrong about sex. The time has come to move beyond our contemporary isms (classism, racism, sexism, heterosexism, etc.), he writes, and embrace our physical bodies.

In *Christianity, Social Justice, and the Japanese American Incarceration during World War II* (Univ. of North Carolina, Nov.), Anne Blankenship, assistant professor of American religious history at North Dakota State University, reflects on social systems in the Japanese internment camps of the 1940s, using them to shed light on the roots of liberation theology. Blankenship writes that the incarceration period introduced new social and legal approaches to challenging the constitutionality of government policies on race and civil rights.

While these books seek primarily to engage Christians, the roots of the struggle for justice lie in Old Testament writings. In *Justice for All: How the Jewish Bible Revolutionized Ethics* (Jewish Publication Society, Mar. 2017), Jeremiah Unterman shows that, in its moral understandings, the Old Testament reflected a radical advance over writings of other ancient Near Eastern civilizations. In an endorsement, Rabbi Joseph Telushkin notes that Unterman “never loses sight of the fact that the Bible’s goal is to create a holy, moral people.” ■

A.B. Westrick is a freelance writer and the author of *Brotherhood* (Puffin), a YALSA Best Fiction for Young Adults pick.

NEW FROM INDIANA UNIVERSITY PRESS



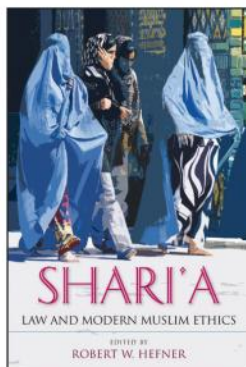
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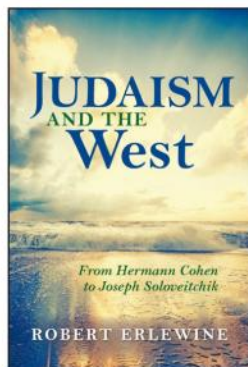
Edited by Gitl Schaechter-Viswanath and Paul Glasser

Containing nearly 50,000 entries and 33,000 subentries, the *Comprehensive English-Yiddish Dictionary* emphasizes Yiddish as a living language that is spoken in many places around the world. The late Mordkhe Schaechter collected and researched spoken and literary Yiddish in all its varieties and this landmark dictionary reflects his vision for present-day and future Yiddish usage. The richness of dialect differences and historical developments are noted in entries ranging from “agriculture” to “zoology” and include words and expressions that can be found in classic and contemporary literature, newspapers, and other sources of the written word and have long been used by professionals and tradesmen, in synagogues, at home, in intimate life, and wherever Yiddish-speaking Jews have lived and worked.

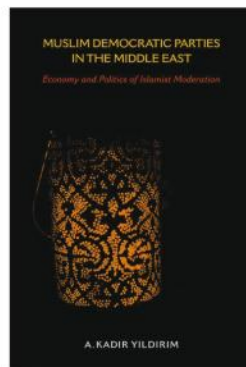
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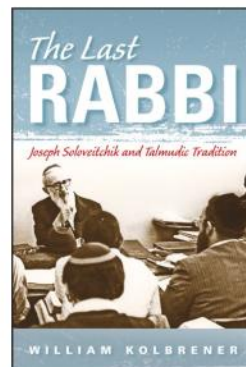
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Edited by Robert W. Hefner



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A. Kadir Yildirim



The Last Rabbi
William Kolbrener

Islamic Studies Picking Up Momentum

More interest in Islam leads to more books

BY MARCIA Z. NELSON

Interest in Islam at American and European universities has picked up since 9/11, and the past few years have seen a flood of Islamic studies books from academic publishers. “It does feel like a thousand flowers are blooming,” says Richard Brown, director of Georgetown University Press. A Jesuit institution with strengths in public and foreign policy, the university has worked with the Church of England for more than 10 years to host Christian-Muslim dialogues. The press adapts conference proceedings into books of essays; the most recent is *Sin, Forgiveness, and Reconciliation: Christian and Muslim Perspectives* (Apr. 2017), edited by Lucinda Mosher of Hartford Theological Seminary and David Marshall of Duke Divinity School. “We’re trying to represent the best of Islamic scholarship and Christian scholarship,” Brown says. “We publish these books and get them out to an audience beyond the academy.”

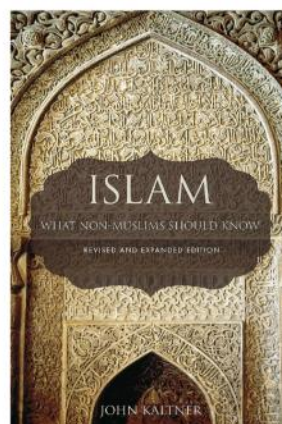
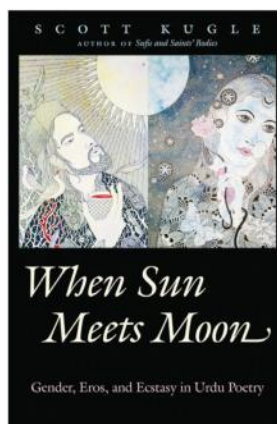
Oxford University Press keeps churning out titles, adding to a list that is both deep and broad. “Lately, I have been seeing a lot of proposals on Islamic thought, which is great because it hits the intersection of philosophy and religious studies, two areas in which OUP excels,” says Theo Calderara, editor-in-chief, history and religion. “I’d love to see more proposals that are similarly interdisciplinary.” The social sciences will also provide helpful lenses for Islamic studies; Calderara cites *The Making of a Salafi Muslim Woman* (out now), by English independent scholar Anabel Inge, which looks at lived religion among Muslim women.

The University of North Carolina

Press’s Islamic Civilizations and Muslim Networks series adds *When Sun Meets Moon: Gender, Eros, and Ecstasy in Urdu Poetry* by Scott Kugle (June 2017), who teaches South Asian and Islamic studies at Emory University. An examination of nontraditional gender roles and how they relate to artistic expression, the book includes Kugle’s translations of previously untranslated Urdu poetry. “Our books try to look deep within the varieties of Islamic life and expression,” says Elaine Maisner, senior executive editor of the press.

Beauty in Sufism: The Teachings of Ruzbihan Baqli by Kazuyo Murata (SUNY, Dec.), who teaches Islamic studies at Kings College London, analyzes the place of beauty in the Sufi understanding of God, the world, and the human being. Christopher Ahn, senior acquisitions editor for Asian studies and religious studies at the press, says he’s seen growing scholarly interest in Sufism over the past decade. “Many scholars are attempting to resist the narrow and highly politicized notion of Islam that has taken hold in the public imagination, at least in the West,” Ahn says, “and scholarly interest in mysticism and esotericism in general seems to be on the rise.”

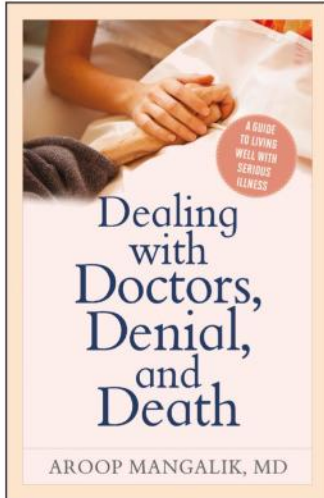
To date, Islamic studies has not played a visible role on the list of Fortress Press, the publishing arm of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America. But the denominational publisher takes seriously its charge to provide resources for Lutheran Christians to understand their



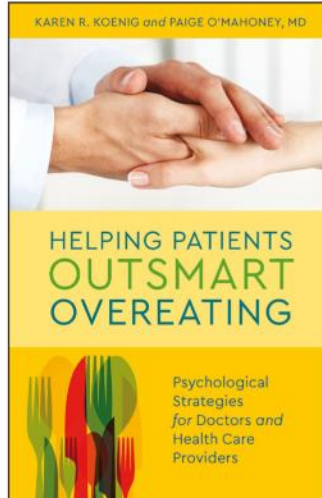
neighbors and in that regard has plans for a few Islamic studies titles. “We’re trying to produce resources that provide perspectival accounts of religions that are deeply contextual, that approach our neighbors’ faith from their perspective,” says Mike Gibson, acquisitions editor in theology. The press has just revised and expanded *Islam: What Non-Muslims Should Know* (out now) by religion professor John Kaltner.

“I see more proposals about Islam and Muslims and Muslim identity written by Muslims and about Muslims than I have ever before,” says Carey Newman, director of Baylor University Press. He calls the growth of the field “generative” and is particularly interested in proposals on Islamic law and Islam in America, especially with reference to American traditions of freedom of speech and religion. *Muslims and the Making of America* by Amir Hussain (out now), who teaches theological studies at Loyola Marymount University in Los Angeles, was years in the making. “Islamic studies are going to become interesting to all sorts of people,” Newman adds. “It’s going to be a livelihood no less so than the study of Judaism and Christianity.” ■

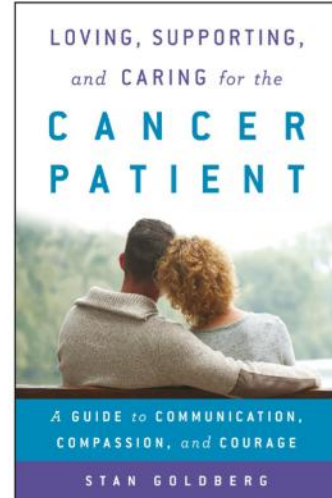
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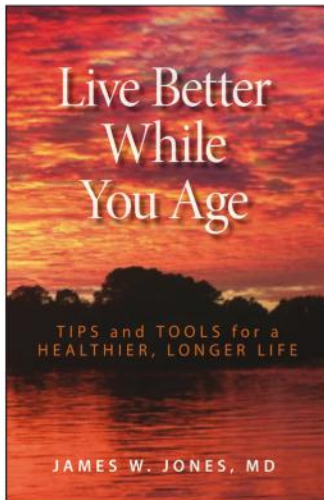
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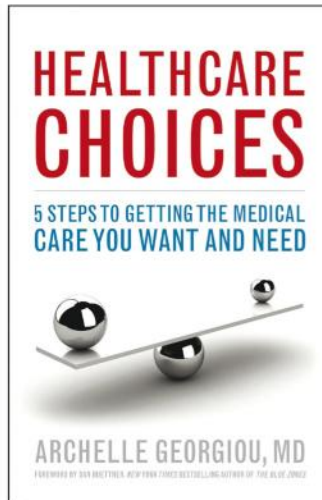
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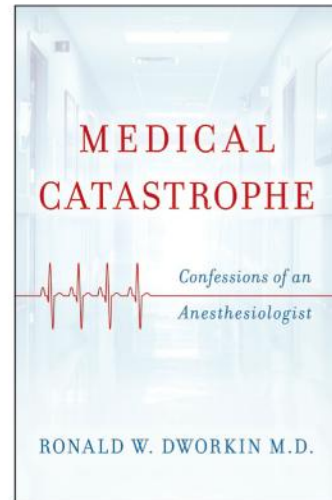
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The Revolution, Then and Now

Five hundred years later, a plethora of books on Luther and the Reformation

BY LYNN GARRETT

The 500th anniversary of the Protestant Reformation, a signal event in the history of Western civilization, will be marked on Oct. 31, 2017. A year-long commemoration began on Oct. 31, 2016, spawning more than 40 new and forthcoming books on Martin Luther and the Reformation.

The best place to start reading is with Luther's own writings, and Fortress Press, the denominational publisher of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, is publishing the Annotated Luther series (general editor Timothy Wengert), six volumes comprising 75 of Luther's essential writings in updated translations, with new introductions, extensive annotations, maps, illustrations, and photographs. Volumes one through four are currently available; volume five publishes March 2017 and volume six later that year.

The Ninety-Five Theses and Other Writings by Martin Luther (Penguin Classics, Sept. 2017), translated, edited, and with an introduction and commentary by William R. Russell, is a wide-ranging collection, including Luther's letters, sermons, and more.

Martin Luther in His Own Words by Jack D. Kilcrease and Erwin W. Lutzer (Baker Books, Apr. 2017) is an annotated collection of Martin Luther's writings.

BIOGRAPHIES AND HISTORIES ABOUND

Luther the Reformer by James M. Kittelson and Hans H. Wiersma (Fortress, out now) is a new edition of a classic biography.

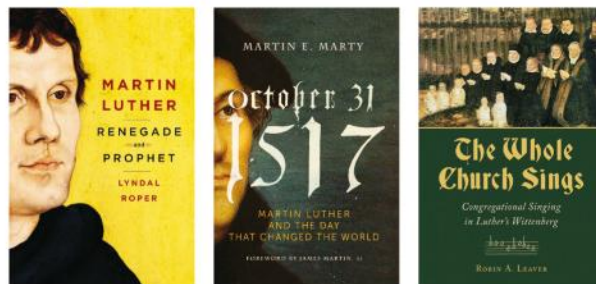
A Short Life of Martin Luther by Thomas Kaufmann (Eerdmans, out now) introduces the life and thought of the reformer.

Martin Luther by Heinz Schilling (Oxford Univ., Mar. 2017) is a doorstop-size biography of Luther that shows him to be a complex man who changed the world.

Martin Luther: Renegade and Prophet by Lyndal Roper (Random House, Mar. 2017) plumbs Luther's inner life and reveals a deeply flawed man, whose personality had a seismic effect, for good and ill.

Martin Luther: A Late Medieval Life (Baker Academic, Oct. 2017), by Volker Leppin, a German historian, is a short, accessible biography that portrays Luther as a man of his time.

Katharina and Martin Luther by Michelle DeRusha (Baker Books, Jan. 2017) is an intimate portrait of the then-scandalous marriage between Martin and Katharina Luther.



October 31: 1517 by Martin E. Marty (Paraclete, Apr.), foreword by James Martin, offers the renowned historian's take on the impact and implications of the Reformation. Includes Luther's 95 Theses.

A Brief Introduction to the Reformation by Glenn S. Sunshine (Westminster John Knox, Feb. 2017) is a short history of the Reformation that introduces key people and ideas.

Calvinism: A Very Short Introduction by Jon Balserak (Oxford Univ., Feb. 2017) presents the origins, ideas, and practices of Calvinism and their influence on modern society.

Heretics and Believers: A History of the English Reformation by Peter H. Marshall (Yale Univ., June 2017) tells and reinterprets the story of the English Reformation.

Martin Luther and the Seven Sacraments by Brian C. Brewer (Baker Academic, Oct. 2017) walks readers through Protestant church life and illuminates Luther's rationale for retaining or eliminating each sacrament.

The Whole Church Sings: Congregational Singing in Luther's Wittenberg by Robin A. Leaver (Eerdmans, Apr. 2017) corrects the view that congregational singing was not established in Lutheran worship until well after the start of the Reformation; new research shows that it was practiced at the start of the Wittenberg reforms in worship.

Prayers of the Reformers by the editors of Paraclete Press (Apr. 2017) collects the prayers of Martin Luther and other well-known Reformers, including John Calvin, Thomas Cranmer, John Knox, and Charles Wesley.

NEW ANALYSES AND CRITIQUES

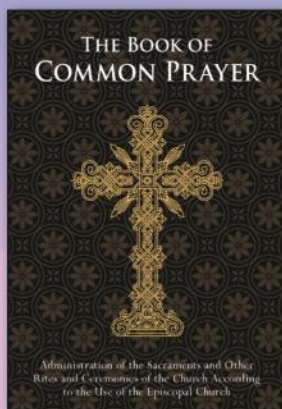
The End of Protestantism by Peter Leithart (Brazos, out now) decries the proliferation of competing denominations in America that resulted from the Reformation's fragmentation of the church, creating Protestant tribalism.

Why I Am Not Roman Catholic by Jerry Walls and Kenneth Collins (Baker Academic, out now) counters recent narratives written by evangelicals who have converted to Roman Catholicism.

Luther and the Jews: Putting Right the Dark Side of Luther's Legacy by Richard Harvey (Monarch, July 2017) examines what Luther said about the Jews and the impact of his words, offering ideas about what Catholics, Protestants, and Jews can do to heal the divisions he fostered.

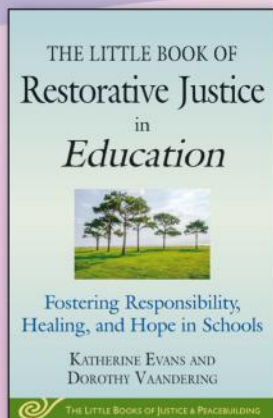
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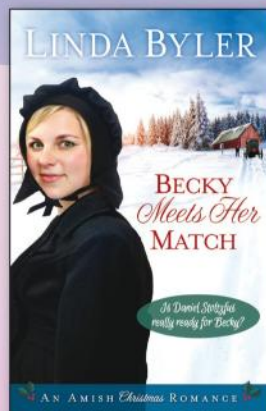
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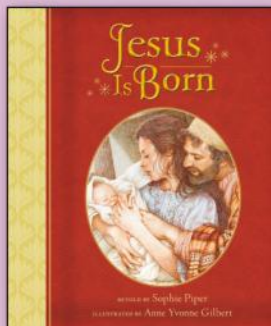
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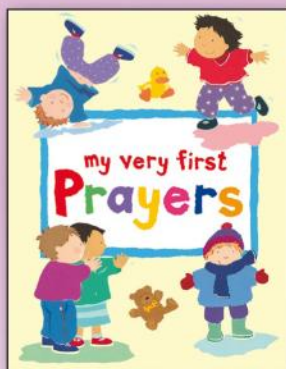


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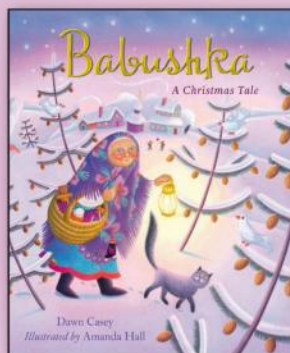
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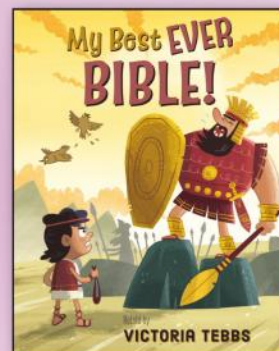
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Religion & Spirituality Update

Wittenberg Meets the World: Reimagining the Reformation at the Margins by Alberto García and John Nunes (Eerdmans, Apr. 2017), with a foreword by Martin E. Marty, recasts central themes of the Reformation from modern black, Hispanic, and other perspectives long at the margins of Catholic-evangelical communities.

Rescuing the Gospel: The Story and Significance of the Reformation by Erwin W. Lutzer (Baker Books, out now) tells the story of the Protestant Reformation and its effects on Christians then and now.

A Rebel in the Ranks: Why Martin Luther and the Reformation Still Matter by Brad S. Gregory (HarperOne, out now) explores

the unintended legacies of Martin Luther and the Reformation in light of the way both Luther and the Reformation still affect society, politics, religion, and culture.

Reformation 500: How the Greatest Revival Since Pentecost Continues to Shape the World Today (B&H, Mar. 2017), edited by Ray Van Neste and J. Michael Garrett, casts the Reformation as a great revival of the church.

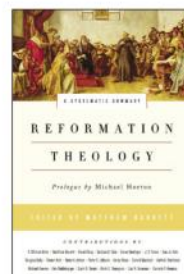
THEOLOGIANS AND BIBLICAL SCHOLARS WEIGH IN

Martin Luther and the Enduring Word of God by theologian Robert Kolb (Baker Academic, Nov.) examines the school of biblical interpretation Luther inspired.

Saving Calvinism: Expanding the Reformed Tradition by Oliver Crisp (IVP, Dec.) explores some of the most difficult Reformed theology, arguing that Calvinism is more diverse and flexible than commonly thought.

Martin Luther's Theology of Beauty by Mark Mattes (Baker Academic, Aug. 2017) locates Luther's thought in late-medieval Scholasticism and nominalist philosophy.

Reformation Theology: A Systematic Summary by Matthew Barrett (Crossway, Mar. 2017) gathers theologians and historians who argue that Reformation theology is still relevant and essential today.



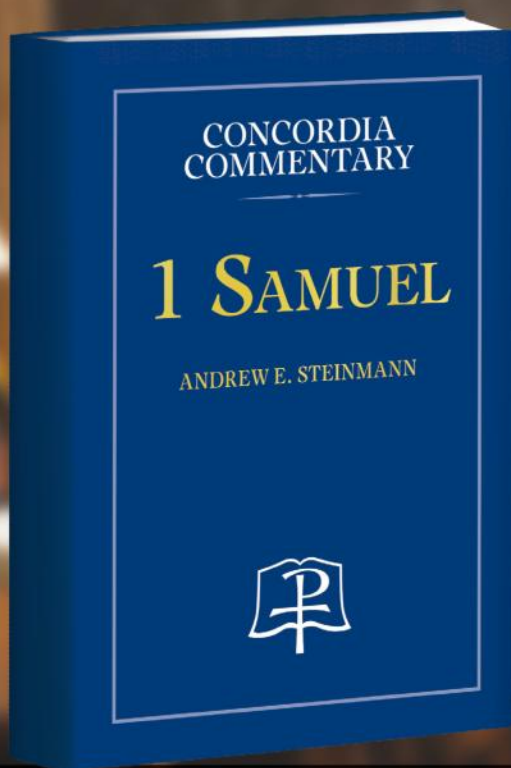
Encounters with Luther: New Directions for Critical Studies (Westminster John Knox, Aug.), edited by Kirsi I. Stjerna and Brooks Schramm, collects articles by Lutheran scholars that focus on contemporary issues such as violence, gender and sexuality, and politics.

A Brief Introduction to Martin Luther by Steven Paulson (Westminster John Knox, Jan. 2017) is a concise introduction to Luther's life and the major themes in his theology.

A Brief Introduction to John Calvin by Christopher Elwood (Westminster John Knox, Feb. 2017) is an accessible overview of John Calvin's theology.

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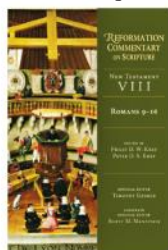
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The People's Book: The Reformation and the Bible (IVP, Apr. 2017), edited by Jennifer Powell McNutt and David Lauber, is a collection of essays showing that Luther viewed his translation of the Bible into German as his major achievement because it made the Bible accessible to ordinary people.

Biblical Authority after Babel by Kevin Vanhoozer (Brazos, out now) argues against scholars who claim that the Protestant Reformation created anarchy in biblical interpretation, asserting that retrieving the Reformation's core principles offers an answer to those critics.

Romans 9–16, Reformation Commentary on Scripture (IVP, Nov.), edited by Philip

D.W. Krey and Peter D.S. Krey, is the latest in the Reformation Commentary on Scripture series; this volume looks at the diversity of Reformation-era biblical commentary on Romans 9–16.



EVERYTHING YOU ALWAYS WANTED TO KNOW...

Dictionary of Luther and the Lutheran Traditions (Baker Academic, Aug. 2017), edited by Timothy J. Wengert, collects articles by Protestant theologians and church historians.

Encyclopedia of Martin Luther and the Reformation (Rowman & Littlefield, July 2017), edited by Mark Lamport, is a two-volume reference covering the life and work of Martin Luther and the movements that followed him.

Reformation Anglicanism: A Vision for Today's Global Communion (Crossway, Feb. 2017), edited by Ashley Null and John W. Yates III, is the first in the six-volume Reformation Anglicanism Essential Library that surveys the state of the Anglican Communion.

TRAVELING TO LUTHERLAND

Here I Walk by Andrew Wilson (Brazos, Dec.) recounts how, in 2010, Andrew Wilson and his wife, Sarah Hinlicky Wilson, recreated Luther's pre-Reforma-

tion pilgrimage, walking a thousand miles in 70 days from Erfurt to Rome.

Martin Luther's Travel Guide: 500 Years of the 95 Theses: On the Trail of the Reformation in Germany by Cornelia Dömer (Berlinica, Nov.) tours the German locations where the Reformation took place and contains travel tips, hotel

recommendations, and more.

AND FOR THE CHILDREN...

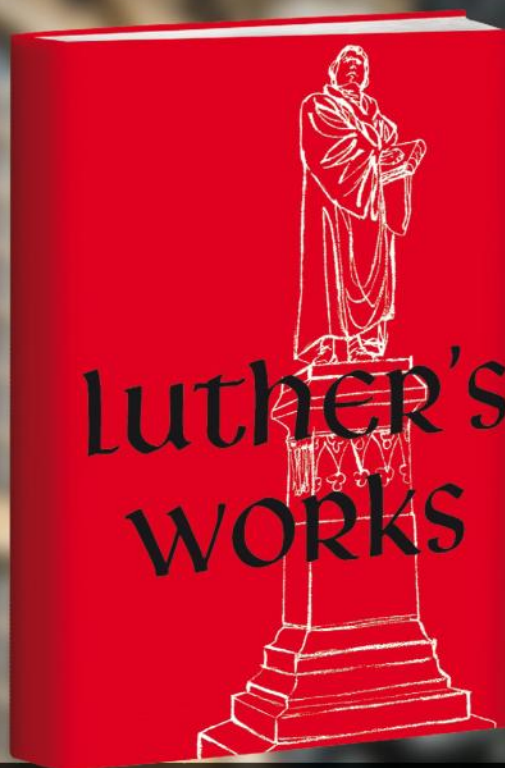
The Life of Martin Luther: A Pop-Up Book by Agostino Traini (Sparkhouse Family, Jan. 2017) retells the story of Martin Luther and the Reformation for children ages five to eight. ■

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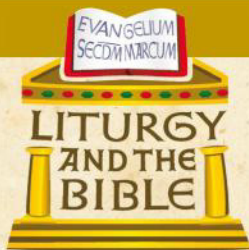


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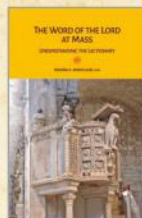


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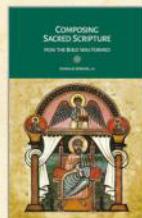


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A number of recently released study Bibles have a decidedly Jewish flavor, one comes from female scholars, two hail from popular pastors, and another promises a unique reading experience.

"The Bible is a Jewish book from Genesis to Revelation," says Rabbi Barry Rubin, general editor of *The Complete Jewish Study Bible* (Hendrickson). "It was written by Jews to Jews and dealt with Jewish issues like resurrection, salvation, and being born again. If you don't understand the Jewish background, I don't see how you can really understand the Bible." Rick Brown, publisher at Hendrickson, says the new edition "has been years in the making and it's selling well." The Bible features more than 30 contributors, numerous topical articles, suggested daily readings, and comprehensive study notes.

Also revering the Jewish roots of the Christian faith is the *Tree of Life Thinline Bible* (TLV) from the Messianic Jewish Family Bible Society (Baker). According to Baker, this edition marks the first time the complete TLV Bible, both the Old and New Testaments, has been published by a traditional house (it previously was published by the MJF Bible Society). The translation speaks with a Jewish-friendly voice, including Hebrew transliterated terms, such as *shalom*, *shofar*, and *Shabbat*.

A new Bible from Zondervan likewise emphasizes the early Jewish perspective. *The New International Version (NIV) Cultural Backgrounds Study Bible* by Craig S. Keener and John H. Walton is for readers who want to know more about what the stories and teachings of the Bible meant to its original authors and audience. This edition highlights nuances, undertones, and references to ancient events, literature, and customs.

Thomas Nelson has released, in the New King James translation, both the *NKJV Word Study Bible* and the *NKJV*

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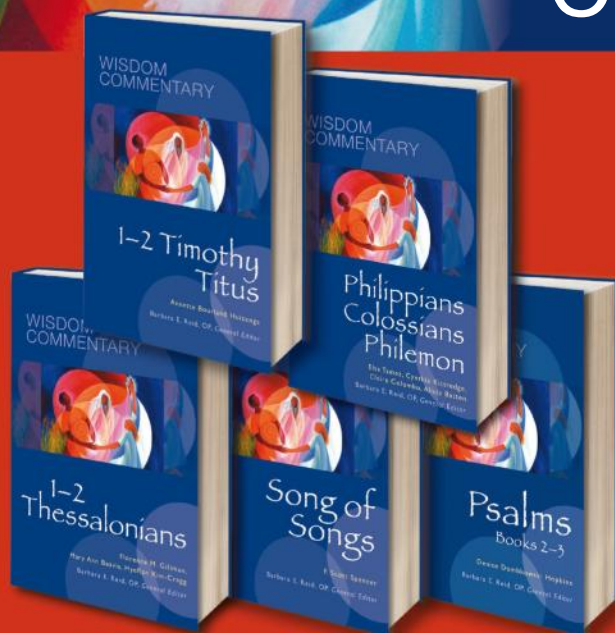
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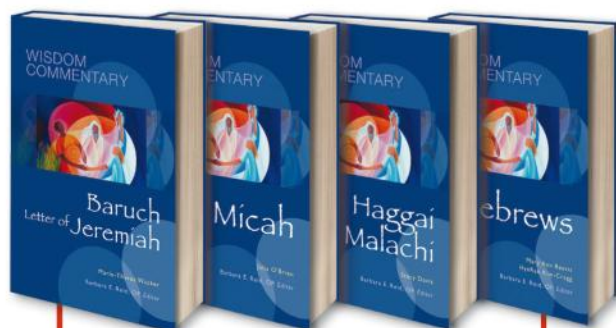
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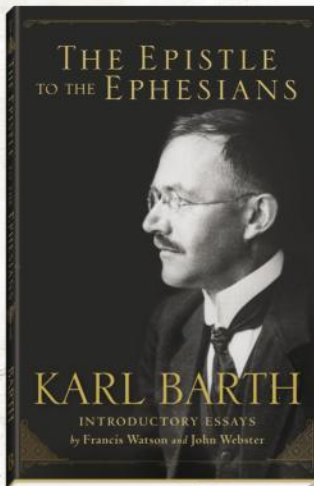
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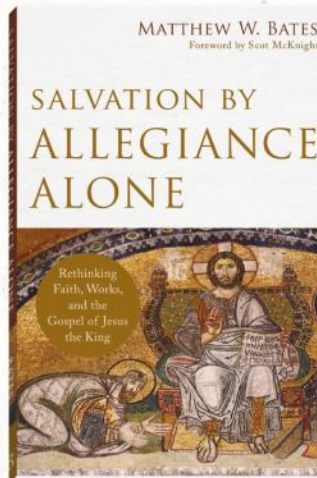


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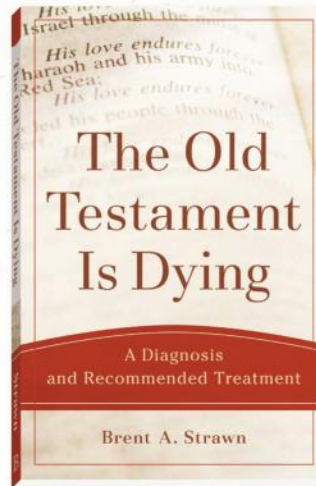
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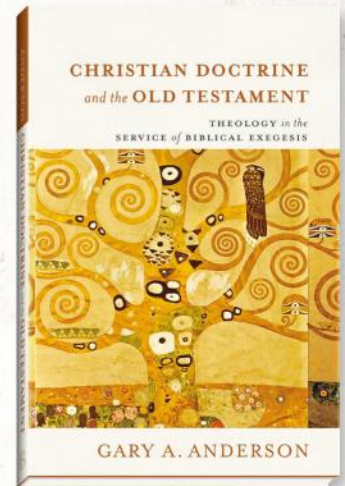
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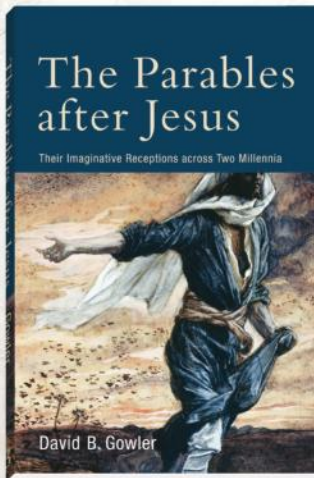
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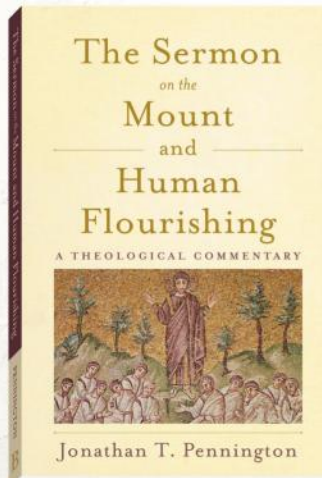
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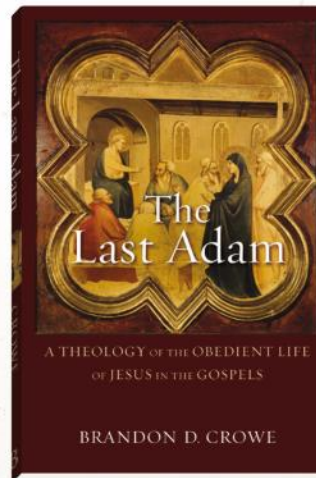
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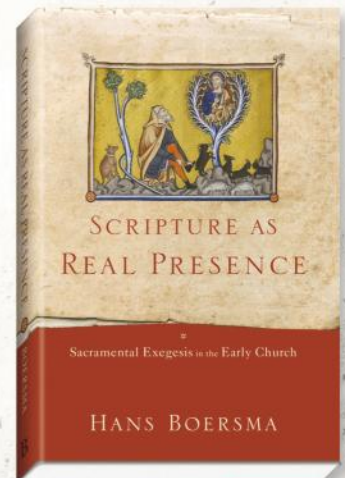
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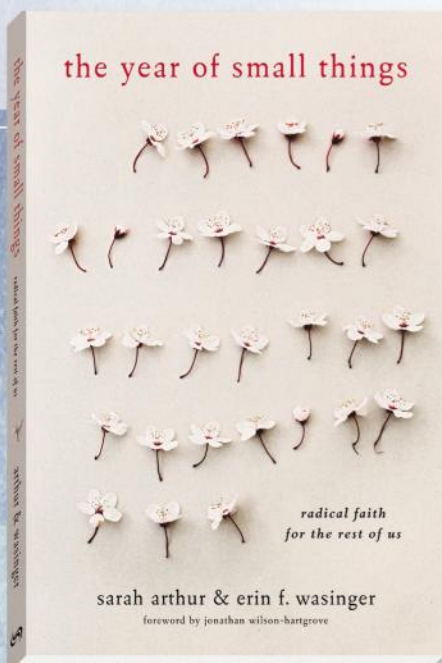
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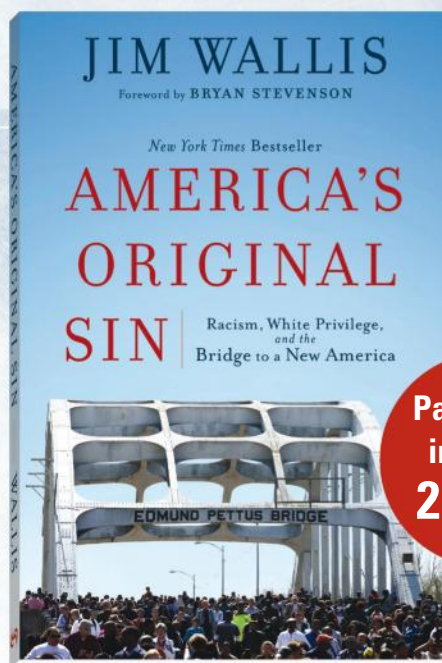
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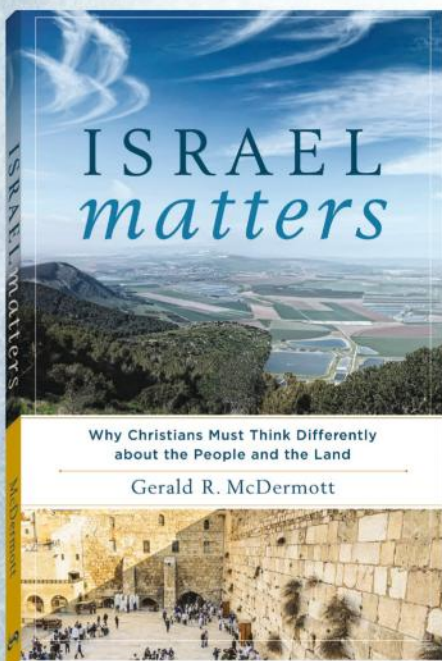


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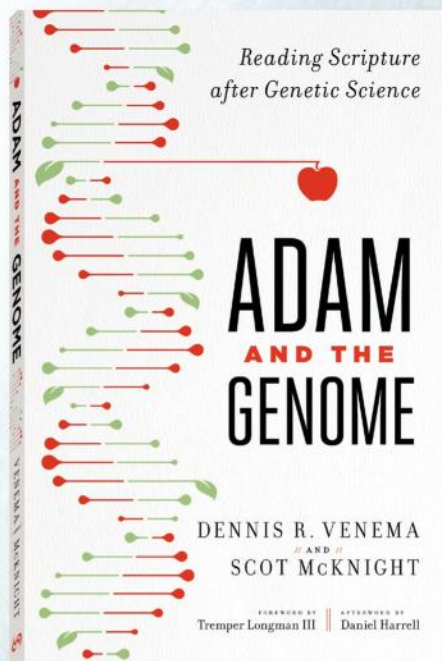


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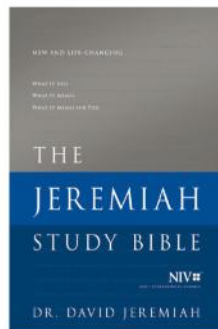
Know the Word Study Bible. The first shows readers how to study word meanings; the second offers three different ways (book by book, verse by verse, or topic by topic) to study the Bible. The *NKJV Word Study Bible* helps readers delve deeper into the original languages of the Bible while the *NKJV Know the Word Study Bible* guides readers through the Bible's main themes.

A unique edition from Abingdon, the *CEB Women's Bible* in the Common English translation, celebrates the communal nature of biblical study. It seeks to create "a thought community," says Ginger Gaines-Cirelli, senior pastor of Foundry United Methodist Church in Washington, D.C., and a member of the *CEB Women's Bible* editorial board. She encourages readers to "come and be part of this community of voices, of reflection, of real deep study that takes the scriptures seriously and that also invites you to push back." Included are Bible-book introductions, scholarly

insights, personal reflections, character sketches, and an index of every woman in the Bible, named and unnamed. Although the CEB translators include both women and men, all 80 editors and commentators for this Bible are women.

In January 2017, to mark the 20th anniversary of the Passion Conference for college-aged youth, *The Jesus Bible, NIV Edition* is being published by Zondervan in partnership with Passion Publishing and Louie Giglio, pastor of Atlanta's Passion City Church and founder of the Passion Conferences. This edition includes contributions from bestselling pastor-authors John Piper, Ravi Zacharias, Randy Alcorn, and Max Lucado.

Also from a pastor is *The Jeremiah Study Bible, NIV: What It Says. What It Means. What It Means for You* (Worthy). The author, David Jeremiah, is senior pastor of



Shadow Mountain Community Church in El Cajon, Calif., and founder of Turning Point Radio and Television Ministries. Included in the 2016 edition are study notes; sidebars with historical information; and full-color maps, charts, and tables.

For readers distracted by the minutia of numbers, sidebars, and scholarly comments, Crossway offers the *English Standard Version (ESV) Reader's Bible* for a visually clean reading experience. This six-volume set features single-column text that is free of all verse and chapter numbers, footnotes, and most section headings. Striving for elegance in the look and feel, Crossway uses heavier European paper and a Smyth-sewn binding—all, according to the publisher, to inspire readers not only to study the Bible, but also to delight in the beauty of Scripture. ■

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Fresh Lenses

New works in biblical studies cover a range of topics

BY MARCIA Z. NELSON

Trends in biblical interpretation come and go, even while the basic text has endured for almost two millennia. New and forthcoming biblical studies books can't leave the apostle Paul alone, continue to find new things to say about Jesus, offer feminist readings, and examine the social and political uses of the Bible. Below is a cross section of new works.

An Anomalous Jew: Paul Among Jews, Greeks, and Romans by Australian scholar Michael F. Bird (Eerdmans, Nov.) also shows Paul roiling the waters in his own

time, stirring controversy and being viewed by contemporaries as strange.

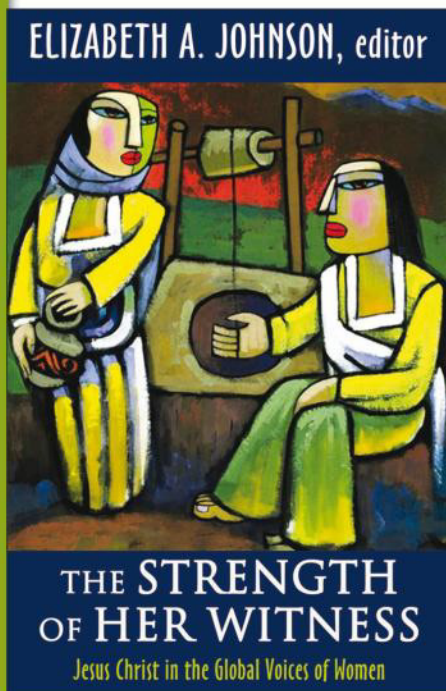
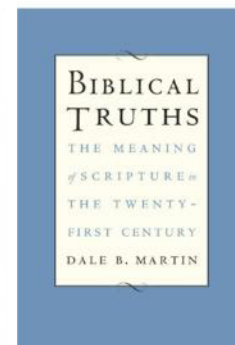
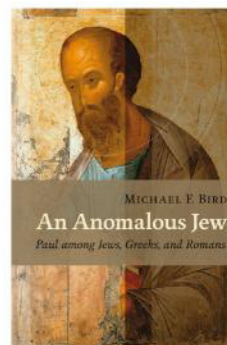
The Bible in Political Debate: What Does It Really Say? edited by Frances Flannery and Rodney A. Werline (T&T Clark, out now) addresses the myriad ways in which biblical interpretation is misused to further particular political viewpoints and agendas.

Biblical Truths: The Meaning of Scripture in the Twenty-First Century by Dale B. Martin (Yale Univ., Feb. 2017) argues that limiting biblical study to the ancient meaning of the text has produced bad

history, bad theology, or both. He then shows how theology and Scripture can remain vital today.

The Day the Revolution Began: Reconsidering the Meaning of Jesus's Crucifixion by N.T. Wright (HarperOne, out now) offers a comprehensive interpretation of Jesus's sacrifice and its significance for the Christian faith.

Destroyer of the Gods: Early Christian Distinctiveness in the Roman World by Larry W. Hurtado (Baylor Univ., out now) examines the ways in which Christians



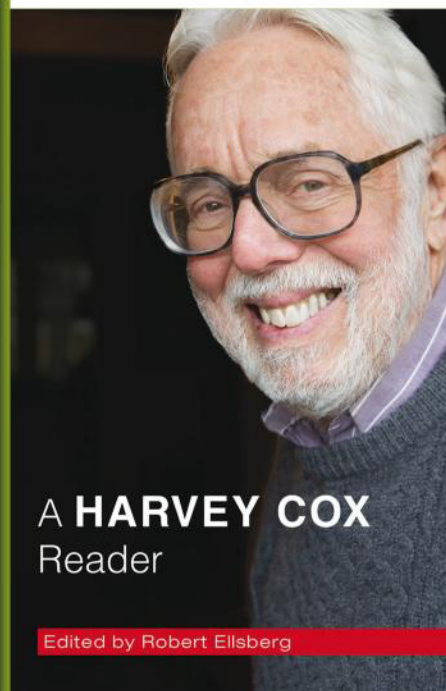
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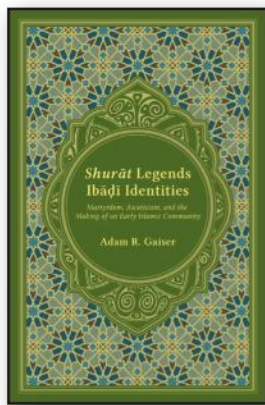
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were social nonconformists in the ancient world, a stance that at best irritated and at worst threatened Roman rulers.

Echoes of Scripture in the Gospels by Richard B. Hays (Baylor Univ., out now) makes a case for the Gospel writers' imaginative and diverse figural readings of Hebrew Scripture to locate Jesus in the story of Israel.

Galatians and the Rhetoric of Crisis: Demosthenes—Cicero—Paul by Nina E. Livesey (Polebridge, Nov.) compares Paul's polemics to those of the Greek orator and the Roman philosopher, analyzing the rhetorical strategies each used to convince his audiences.

The Genesis of Liberation: Biblical Interpretation in the Antebellum Narratives of the Enslaved by Emerson B. Powery and Rodney S. Sadler Jr. (Westminster John Knox, Apr. 2017) explores how enslaved African-Americans used the Bible as a source of liberation and empowerment.

Jesus and the Gospels: An Introduction by John T. Carroll (Westminster John Knox, out now) produces the narrative, context, and structure of each Gospel in clear and accessible language suitable for undergraduate students.

Justice for All: How the Jewish Bible Revolutionized Ethics by Jeremiah Unterman (Jewish Publication Society, Mar. 2017) demonstrates that the Jewish Bible, by radically changing the course of ethical thought, came to exercise enormous cultural influence.

A Man Attested by God: The Human Jesus of the Synoptic Gospels by J.R. Daniel Kirk (Eerdmans, out now) reiterates and defends the view that the Gospels present Jesus as an ideal human.

Paul and Gender by Cynthia Long Westfall (Baker Academic, Dec.) aims to offer a coherent Pauline theology of gender, tackling some notorious inter-

pretive problems in certain passages and reframing gender issues to move the conversation forward.

Paul Behaving Badly: Was the Apostle a Racist, Chauvinist Jerk? by E. Randolph Richards and Brandon J. O'Brien (IVP, Nov.) argues that the apostle Paul offended Roman perspectives and scandalized Jewish sensibilities with a Christian faith that was deeply disturbing to others in his day.

Reading the Bible with the Founding Fathers by Daniel Dreisbach (Oxford Univ., Dec.) addresses the perennial question of whether America's founders were, to some extent, informed by religious—specifically Christian—ideas.

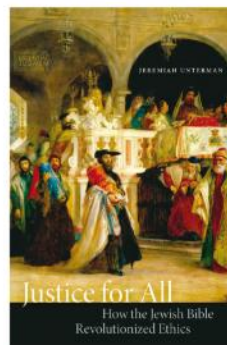
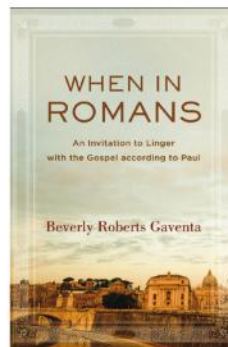
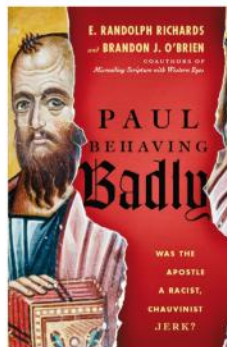
When in Romans: An Invitation to Linger with the Gospel According to Paul by Beverly Roberts Gaventa (Baker Academic, Nov.), this year's president of the Society of Biblical Literature, sifts key themes from Paul's opus

that mattered then and that remain relevant to contemporary readers.

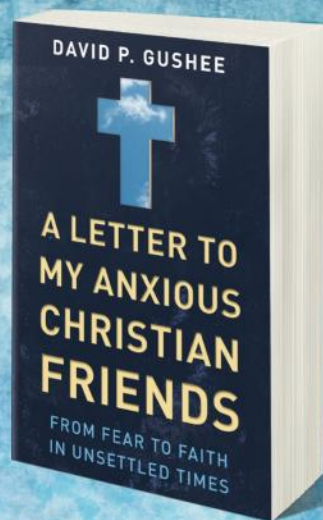
The Wisdom Commentary series, overseen by general editor Barbara E. Reid (Liturgical Press), is adding six new volumes in the feminist commentary series launched last year: *Baruch and the Letter of Jeremiah* (out now); *Psalms, Books 2-3* (Nov.); *1-2 Timothy, Titus* (Nov.); *1-2 Thessalonians* (Nov.);

Song of Songs (Nov.); *Philippians, Colossians, Philemon* (Dec.).

Wisdom's Feast: An Invitation to Feminist Interpretation of the Scriptures by Barbara Reid (Eerdmans, out now) opens the reader to feminist methods of interpreting Scripture.



A Thoughtful Look at Religion and Society



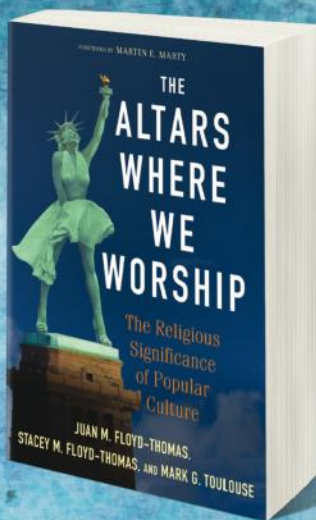
A Letter to My Anxious Christian Friends

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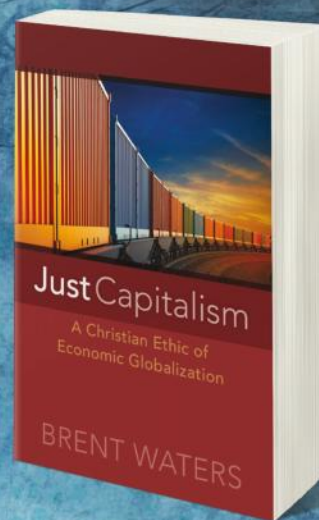
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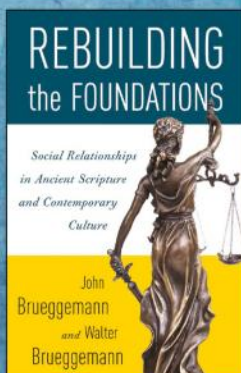
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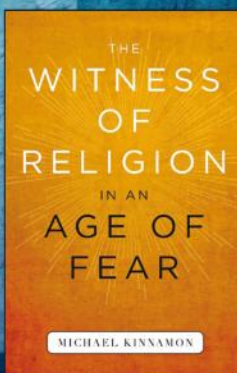
—James K. A. Smith, Calvin College

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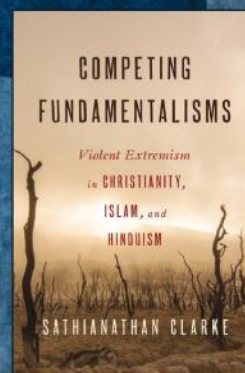
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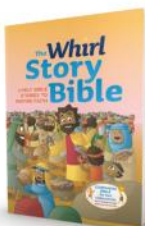
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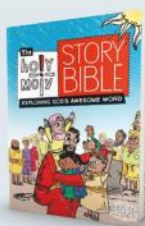
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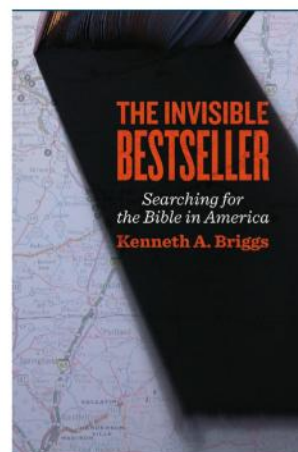
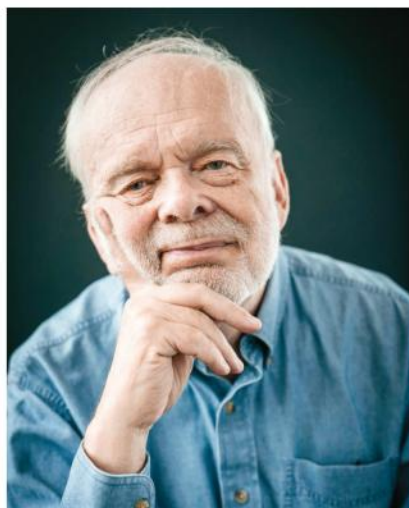
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IN Profile

Authors talk about their new books

Kenneth A. Briggs



Whatever Happened to the Bible?

Most Americans say that the Bible is important to them—in fact, 88% own a copy. But polls show that fewer are actually reading it than at any previous time in modern U.S. history. In *The Invisible Bestseller: Searching for the Bible in America* (Eerdmans, out now), religion journalist Kenneth A. Briggs writes that the Good Book has become “a museum exhibit”—a revered artifact that people mostly leave on the shelf.

“A half a century ago you would have seen much more reference to it in political campaigns and public life in general,” Briggs says. “More colleges and universities had departments of religion, and the Bible was studied to a much greater extent.” Today, by contrast, “even evangelical ministers sometimes don’t do Bible quotations, because their own people don’t know the Bible well enough for them to understand.”

In short, America has experienced a fundamental shift. “For a long time in America, the Bible was the guidebook to life,” Briggs says. “I’m not saying it has to be the source of that orientation now, but when the Bible has been the groundwork and you leave that behind, what takes its place?”

To find out, the veteran of *Newsday* and the *New York Times* put his journalism skills to work and went on an investigative road trip, interviewing dozens of people over the course of three years of research and writing. He visited Christian colleges where long-time Bible professors bemoaned the religious illiteracy of today’s students, and he interviewed Christian booksellers about the thousands of versions of the Bible that have flooded the market. (Just because people aren’t reading it doesn’t mean that they aren’t still buying it.)

Briggs, whose other books on the intersections of religion and American culture have included *Double Crossed* (Doubleday) and *Holy Siege* (HarperOne), says that Eerdmans aims for its books to appeal equally to scholars and people in the pews. That’s a strategy America needs more of, he notes, because increasingly the latter group knows almost nothing about the Bible.

Religion & Spirituality Update

Biblical fluency was certainly the norm during Briggs's postwar childhood in central Massachusetts. But he harbors no illusions about that time. The Bible's ascendancy coincided with the rise of an aggressive capitalism that used the Bible in a "practical, achievement-oriented, largely material approach," he says. That's an economic narrative that a deeper engagement with the Bible would complicate, not celebrate. "I think a lot of people are scared to read it, because it confronts our value system," Briggs says. "I don't know how you read the Sermon on the Mount and still uphold lots of [basic] American values."

—Jana Riess

David Gushee

Debunking an Imagined Past

The widespread anxiety bubbling up along economic, cultural, and political lines, especially among white Christians, led Christian ethicist David P. Gushee to write his latest book, *A Letter to My Anxious Christian Friends: From Fear to Faith in Unsettled Times* (Westminster John Knox, out now).

Gushee, distinguished professor of ethics at Mercer University, says, "I was already beginning to see the appeal of Donald Trump to at least a certain part of the white Christian community, and I was trying to make sense of that without focusing on a particular individual." He notes that "a widely felt anxiety is one of the major stories of the American election of 2016, so I wanted to offer an alternative kind of spirit and vision, at least for Christian readers."

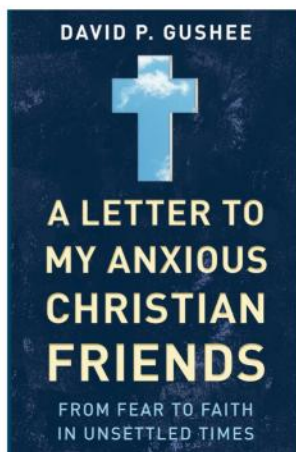
Distilling 30 years of observation, Gushee, the author or editor of some 20 books, argues that Christians should not approach public life from a posture of anxiety, nostalgia, or anger, but from a place of confidence in God and a commitment to bear Christian witness, no matter what is occurring in the culture. He wants to detoxify some of the rhetoric around the election and offer a perspective for "looking at the issues and a way of engaging them that might give us some constructive, hopeful way forward."

A Letter to My Anxious Christian Friends challenges the idea that America, where people were enslaved, was ever a Christian nation. "We have all this nostalgia about the Christian values of our past," Gushee says. "That's very strong among conservative Christians, but it is usually uninformed by serious reflection on all the evils of American history." He calls it "a white nostalgia for an imaginary Christian past that doesn't take seriously the problems of racism" and cautions against "overidealizing the past in any way."

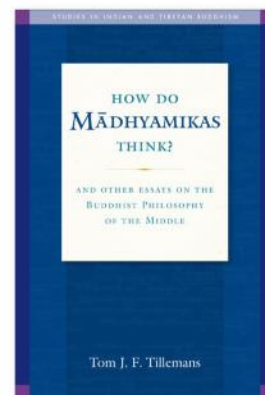
Gushee structured the book as a series of letters to Christians that can be read by anyone, and he hopes that it will help readers "look with a nonideological, nonpartisan, and nonhysterical gaze on American public life right now and how we can contribute." He adds, "It's a love letter to America and my fellow Christians to say, lift your head



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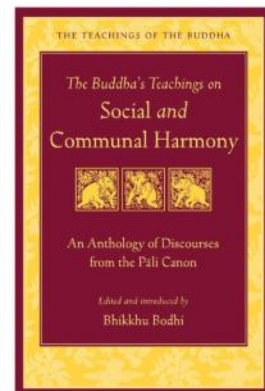


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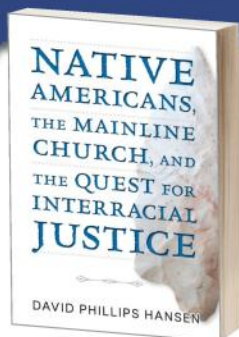
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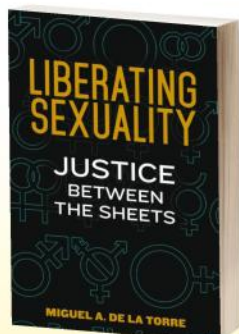
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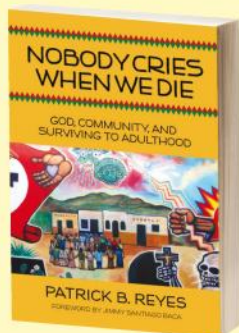
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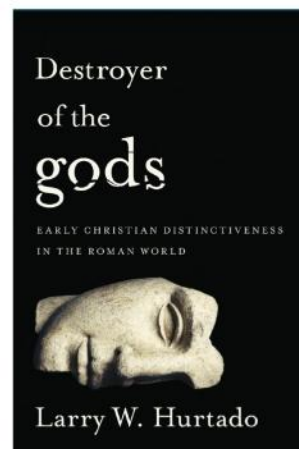
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up, don't be hysterical, try to be as constructive as you can be and engage in our culture at this time. And try to see the good in our country as well as the things we are concerned about."

—Robin Farmer

Larry W. Hurtado



Setting the Record Straight

When Christianity emerged in the first century, it was completely unlike the other religions practiced at the time, New Testament scholar Larry W. Hurtado says. Yet in recent years Hurtado noticed what he thought was an inadequate emphasis on the distinctiveness of early Christianity, especially among academic specialists in its origins. That prompted him to set the record straight by writing *Destroyer of the Gods: Early Christian Distinctiveness in the Roman World* (Baylor Univ., out now).

Hurtado says that his purpose was "to correct what I perceived as a scholarly imbalance and some popular misconceptions" about how unusual the Jesus movement that became Christianity was at its beginning. Not only did these unusual elements of the Jesus movement become normalized, they also shaped definitions of what "religion" is in a more general sense, says the emeritus professor of New Testament language, literature, and theology in the school of divinity at the University of Edinburgh.

In its first three centuries, Christianity—with its emphasis on one true, living God and sacred books, among other beliefs and practices—was so different that many regarded it as bizarre, disturbing, and a threat to society and the religious and political order of the time. Now its once-strange features have become commonplace assumptions, Hurtado says.

"For instance, our assumption that your religious affiliation is distinguishable from your ethnicity likely derives from the early Christian teaching that converts were to retain their ethnic and family relationships, but were to forsake their ancestral gods and take up a new and exclusive religious orientation toward the biblical deity and Christ," Hurtado says. "That was bizarre in that Roman setting, but it introduced the distinction between ethnicity and religious affiliation that we presume today."

Destroyer of the Gods also explores how early Christianity's novel beliefs and practices reshaped society as a whole. Hurtado says that whether a reader is "for, against, or don't give a rip one way or the other, your world has been shaped by it, and your own outlook, values, and assumptions, especially about what religion is, have been shaped by it too." For example, he explains, "Roman-era religion didn't tell you how to live, just how to approach the gods," a stark difference from Christianity.

continued on p. 24



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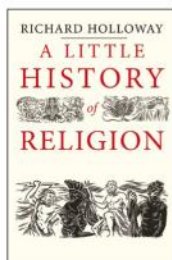
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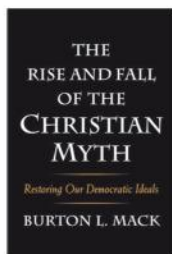
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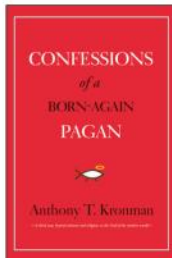
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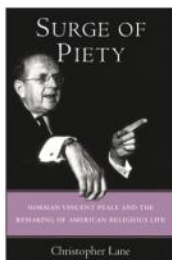
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Religion & Spirituality Update

continued from p. 22

Hurtado hopes “that a wide swath of readers would find it interesting to see how this early rambunctious Christian movement initiated ideas and developments that we now take for granted.” Without that knowledge, he says, “we’re a ‘cut flower’ culture, without any understanding of our roots.”
—Robin Farmer

Angela D. Sims: The Legacy of Lynching

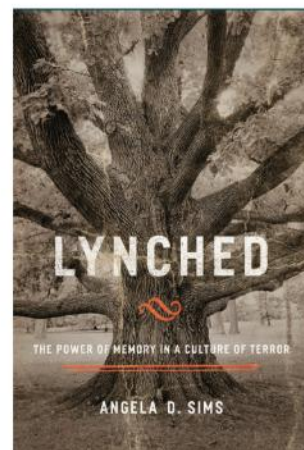
For decades, too few witnesses affected by lynchings came forward to tell their stories. But lynching is etched into our collective history, and now, in *Lynched: The Power of Memory in a Culture of Terror* (Baylor Univ., out now), Angela D. Sims wants to end the silence of African-American elders whose lives intersected with those brutal acts, and to bring their stories to wider attention.

Sims, dean of academic programs, Robert B. and Kathleen Rogers chair in church and society, and associate professor of ethics and black church studies at Saint Paul School of Theology, came to write this book because she wanted to understand how those affected by lynchings—both eyewitnesses and others in the families and communities of victims—somehow were not destroyed by their proximity to dehumanizing acts. “[African-Americans] who came of age in a culture of terror were still able, whether it’s based on their faith or something else, to glimpse areas of hope and participate fully within their communities and society,” says Sims, whose doctoral dissertation was about anti-lynching advocate Ida B. Wells’s activism against the gruesome crime.

Lynched had its genesis when, a few months after defending her dissertation, Sims heard a preacher recount vivid memories of a lynching that occurred in his hometown in Georgia. Sims says that his remarks prompted her to ask herself whether there might be others also willing to share their memories.

As a way to illustrate how difficult the process of sharing traumatic memories can be, Sims compares the act of remembering to baptism. “I look at the way baptism lives in my own religious tradition, in historically black Baptist churches,” she says. “Baptism is a process of immersion. What does it mean to allow oneself to be immersed in terrible memories as a way to give [other] folks hope and meaning?”

Sims compares her research for *Lynched* to the work of the Depression-era WPA Project, which sent investigators into the field to gather oral histories. She too conducted interviews, documenting the oral histories of several dozen participants, and she wants her book to provide a platform for voices that are seldom heard and not included in any scholarly work. “It’s unfortunate that this is still so culturally relevant in the 21st century” Sims says. “It pains me that individuals are still dealing with domestic terror in the U.S. today.”
—Robin Farmer

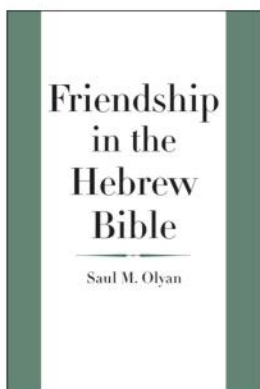


Scholarly Religion Reviews

Friendship in the Hebrew Bible

Saul M. Olyan. Yale Univ., \$50 (208p)
ISBN 978-0-300-18268-2

In this account, aimed more at academics than lay readers, Olyan (*Social Inequality in the World of the Text*) asserts that "[friendship] has mainly been ignored by scholars of the Hebrew Bible, possibly on account of its complexity and elusiveness." Appreciating and assessing his scholarship requires a familiarity with biblical Hebrew, unlike popular looks at misconceptions about the Hebrew Bible, such as Joel Hoffman's *The Bible Doesn't Say That*. In addition to providing close readings of the most salient sections of the text that deal with friendship, such as those concerning David and Jonathan and Naomi and Ruth, Olyan examines Job and Jephthah. Not every observation is profound, but by focusing on this vital component of human existence, Olyan sheds valuable light on how we currently view voluntary caring associations between people, as well as on how the Hebrew Bible did. (*Jan.* 2017)



was also being used by preachers and others of deep faith who saw God's hand in the new nation's formation. In the book's second half, Dreisbach drills into texts that particularly concerned the founders, such as Exodus, Micah, Proverbs, and Romans. This focus is fascinating in the manner in which it traces the religious arguments used in favor of republicanism, even

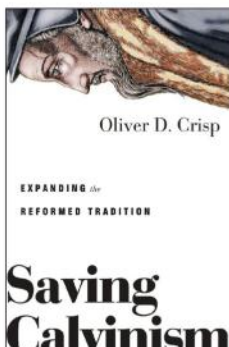
though Dreisbach tends to underplay the radical philosophical currents that led to the formation of a republic throughout. However, this clearly written and well-researched book represents a solid step forward in developing an objective, nonpartisan scholarship around the biblical foundations of the U.S. (*Dec.*)

Saving Calvinism: Expanding the Reformed Tradition

Oliver Crisp. IVP Academic, \$18 trade paper (176p) ISBN 978-0-8308-5175-1

Crisp (*Retrieving Doctrine*) injects considerable energy into saving Calvinism in this book about redefining its theology in the 21st century. He longs to redefine Calvinism so that it is something more than a label (honorific or pejorative), to make modern Calvinism signify

something new, and to distinguish reformed Calvinism from cookie-cutter Calvinism, especially as it concerns achieving salvation. In this thankfully brief but dense defense, Crisp explains the TULIP

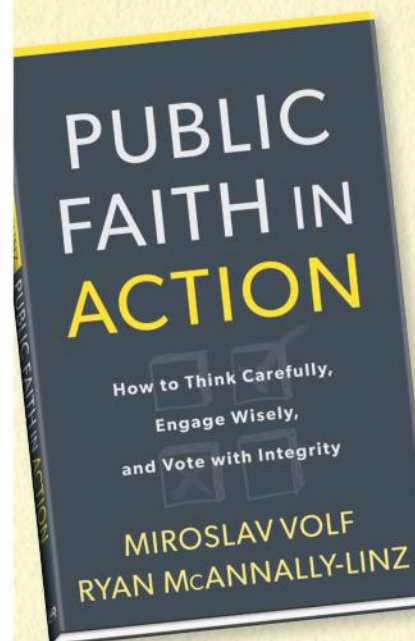


Reading the Bible with the Founding Fathers

Daniel L. Dreisbach. Oxford Univ., \$34.95 (352p) ISBN 978-0-19-998793-1

According to Dreisbach (*The Founders on God and Government*), the founding fathers were steeped in biblical knowledge, but the Bible's influence on the formation of the U.S. has been less studied by scholars than the contributions of Enlightenment thinkers. Dreisbach emphasizes that the founding fathers deployed the Bible rhetorically to persuade the common people to support the new republic, but it

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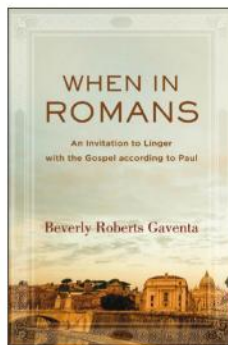
Religion & Spirituality Update

acronym, each of whose letters stands for a tenet of Calvinism, and argues that the reformed tradition offers wider diversity of thought than what Calvinists cautiously tiptoeing through TULIP will experience. In juxtaposing Calvinism and universalism, Crisp founders in a slew of isms such as restrictivism, infralapsarianism, and annihilationism. He cites his Bible, chapter and verse, and history, from John Calvin (1509–1564) to the Synod of Dort (1619) and Jonathan Edwards (1703–1758). Throughout, the argument meticulously builds toward Crisp’s last chapter on atonement, where he comes out in favor of “hypothetical universalism”: a theory of who’s in and who’s out. Although he assumes a slightly conversational tone, he writes mostly behind barriers of aggressively masculine theological jargon. Crisp balances theories with analogies but ends up with a hodgepodge of arguments that never find a clear tone or voice. (Dec.)

When in Romans: An Invitation to Linger with the Gospel According to Paul

Beverly Roberts Gaventa. Baker Academic,
\$22.99 (160p) ISBN 978-0-8010-9738-6

In this straightforward and intriguing guide to Paul’s Letter to the Romans, Gaventa (*Our Mother Saint Paul*) offers insights that both illuminate the letter’s original context and prove instructive to contemporary readers, beginning with a refreshing investigation into Phoebe, the deacon whom Paul entrusts to deliver the letter to the churches in Rome. Warning against “wrenching comments out of context,” Gaventa recommends reading the entire letter, focusing not just on well-known passages, but on pervasive themes, and attending to Paul’s rhetorical style by reading “both forward and backward” in order to see “the movement, the logic, the development of a text.”



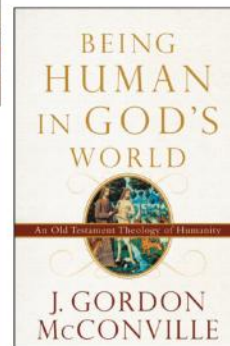
Gaventa understands Paul’s view of salvation as “corporate or social rather than personal or individual” and describes Paul’s expansive understanding of redemption by comparing sinners to slaves or child soldiers, needing not God’s forgiveness, but God’s deliverance. Addressing the relevance of Paul’s ethical teaching today, Gaventa probes Paul’s understanding of the interplay between faithful worship and ethical behavior and argues that Paul’s theological arguments about Abraham and Israel caution against “the church’s constant temptation to anti-Judaism.” In this judicious and thought-provoking exploration, Gaventa makes valuable contributions to ongoing conversations about Paul’s letter. (Dec.)

Top Scholarly Religion Reviews 2016

★ Being Human in God’s World: An Old Testament Theology of Humanity

J. Gordon McConville. Baker, \$27.99
(256p) ISBN 978-0-8010-4896-8

In this scholarly, accessible, and beautifully written study, McConville (*Law and Theology in Deuteronomy*), professor of Old Testament theology at the University of Gloucester, welcomes the reader into an exploration of the Old Testament’s portrayal of humanity as created “in the image of God.” Guided by the biblical question, “What is the human being, that you give attention to them?” McConville investigates topics including human potential, the power of biblical language, theologies of work, modern and ancient concepts of self, the role of place and memory in human self-understanding, and “the



nature of human relatedness to the earth.” Declaring that “the Bible exemplifies and invites the imaginative rereading of its texts,” McConville draws

insights from such diverse sources as philosopher Charles Taylor, author Marilynne Robinson, poet Wendell Berry, and scholar Phyllis Trible. Through his analysis of Scripture's "montage of human stories," McConville ultimately asserts that "the capacity of humans for affirming the goodness of God's creation in ways that are full of imagination and integrity seems unbounded." Insightful, provocative and compelling, this book is itself a work of literature to be savored. (*Aug.*)

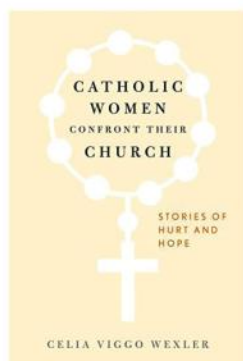
★ Catholic Women Confront Their Church: Stories of Hurt and Hope

Celia Viggo Wexler. Rowman & Littlefield, \$34 (216p) ISBN 978-1-4422-5413-8

Award-winning journalist Wexler tells the stories of 10 women (including herself) of various ages, ethnicities, and life experiences who have wrestled with their Catholicism and the institutional church's approach to women. Each finely

crafted profile includes a biographical story interwoven with a faith journey in progress, all of which include a strong sense of a call to service. Certain themes recur: the question of women's

ordination, ordination in general, issues of social justice, and a commitment to a "faith that transcends the institutional church." Those profiled include Sister Simone Campbell, of "Nuns on the Bus" fame; Barbara Blaine, director of the Survivors Network of those Abused by Priests; and Marianne Duddy-Burke, "a full-throated advocate for gay Catholics." Wexler quotes liberally, conveying the women's own voices; for example, Frances Kissling, longtime president of Catholics for Free Choice, says, "Abortion is very serious for me. It is a moral issue"; Diana L. Hayes, an African-American womanist theologian and adult convert, says, "God knew not to ask me into this church prior to Vatican II."



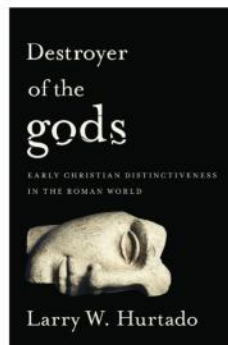
These thought-provoking profiles brim with hope and concern for the future of the Catholic Church. (*Sept.*)

★ Destroyer of the Gods: Early Christian Distinctiveness in the Roman World

Larry W. Hurtado. Baylor Univ., \$29.95 (267p)

ISBN 978-1-4813-0473-3

Hurtado, emeritus professor of New Testament language, literature, and theology in the School of Divinity at the University of Edinburgh, discusses the history and evolution of ecumenical Christian practices in this elegantly straightforward book. He notes that many characteristics of Christianity that are taken for granted today were considered nothing less than radical, even abhorrent, in the religion's early years: one transcendent god, scriptures to guide the faithful, the democratizing evangelism of Christianity, concern



with the ethics of everyday behavior. Not only did these practices become completely normalized, he says, but they also shaped ideas about what "religion" is in a more general sense. Hurtado does an excellent job of walking readers through the processes that brought about such universal assumptions about Christianity, and demonstrates how very odd early Christianity was for its place and time and how it came to overturn and replace ancient systems and beliefs. Hurtado writes with a measured tone and learned authority. Those wishing to know more about early Christianity will find much here. (*Sept.*)

★ The Ground Has Shifted: The Future of the Black Church in Post-Racial America

Walter Earl Fluker. New York Univ., \$35 (304p) ISBN 978-1-4798-1038-3

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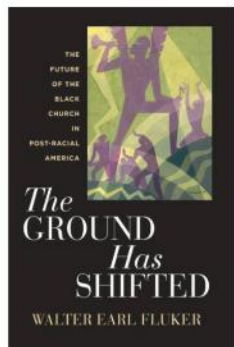
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The black church is “haunted by an old ghost who has shape-shifted into the language of post-racialism,” writes Fluker (*Ethical Leadership*), professor of ethical leadership at Boston University School of Theology, in this passionate analysis and call for change. Approaching post-racialism as a “postulate that is subject to argument and investigation,” Fluker organizes his discussion around memory, vision, and mission to encourage “a disturbing theology, a disruptive ethics, a prophetic preaching” with a particular focus on the “exilic condition” of young black men. Fluker’s up-to-date appraisal includes discussion of the Black Lives Matter movement and ways the “old ghost” of slavery and racial oppression has haunted Barack Obama’s presidency. This work, aimed specifically at black church



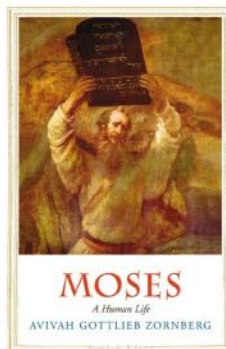
leaders and scholars, offers a conceptual path forward rather than a handbook of specific strategies. Fluker’s more poetic, personal sections can be riveting, but his extensive use of academic social science language and close analysis of the work of scholars in his field may make his lines of inquiry difficult for the general reader

to follow. Those up for a challenge will find an exuberant, thought-provoking assessment of the dilemmas facing black churches, as well as pointers toward, in Fluker’s words, “new ways to model citizenship in diasporas and exiles.” This book is perhaps best suited for academics, seminaries, and large public libraries. (Nov.)

★ Moses: A Human Life

Avivah Gottlieb Zornberg. Yale Univ., \$25 (240p) ISBN 978-0-300-20962-4

In this slim volume, acclaimed scholar and lecturer Zornberg (*Bewilderments: Reflections on the Book of Numbers*) offers another richly textured and nuanced biblical study. Early on she sets an academic tone, writing of Moses that “he exists in a metonymic relation to the people who are, at first, both his and not his.” That kind of language will be a barrier to some, but those who persist will find Zornberg’s illuminating use of both midrash and literary sources, such as George Eliot’s *Daniel Deronda* and W.G. Sebald’s *Austerlitz*, worth the effort. She gives her commentary immediacy not usually found in similar titles by opening with an anecdote about her affecting experience during a rabbinical retreat, where she envisioned Moses pleading with God to allow him to enter the promised land. That blend of the personal and scholarly supports her ultimate argument about the bib-

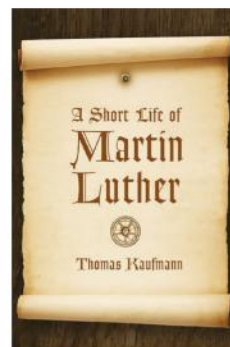


lical figure’s enduring significance: “Veiled and unveiled, he remains lodged in the Jewish imagination where in his uncompleted humanity he comes to represent the yet-unattained but attainable messianic future.” For those wishing to engage the legacy of Moses more deeply, this is a must-read. (Nov.)

★ A Short Life of Martin Luther

Thomas Kaufmann, trans. from the German by Peter D.S. Krey and James D. Bratt. Eerdmans, \$18 trade paper (152p) ISBN 978-0-8028-7153-4

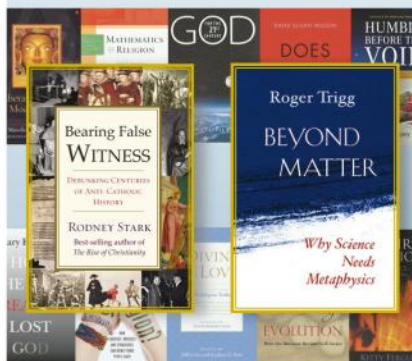
Timed to coincide with the 500th anniversary of Martin Luther’s 95 theses, which ushered in the Protestant Reformation, Kaufmann’s short, incisive biography of Luther focuses on the theological import of his subject’s life. Kaufmann conveys the core of Luther’s theology, rooted in the scholar-monk’s conviction of the primacy of scripture over Roman Catholic theological tradition and his unwavering belief that salvation came through the grace of God alone, not through works. His sketch of Luther’s life is brief, but Kaufmann does not shy away from controversial topics such as Luther’s anti-Semitism and his harsh reaction to the German Peasants’ War, which alienated him from many of the common people who were once his staunch supporters. Kaufmann, having taken on a daunting task, expertly cuts to the heart of Luther’s thought, illustrating



how his religious and intellectual consistency after 1517 drove his life decisions. The book, written in a tone of high seriousness, is impressively clear, providing insights into the

mind of a complicated individual. For those who want more, Kaufmann offers a reprint of the 95 Theses as well as reading lists on both Luther’s life and the Reformation. (Nov.)

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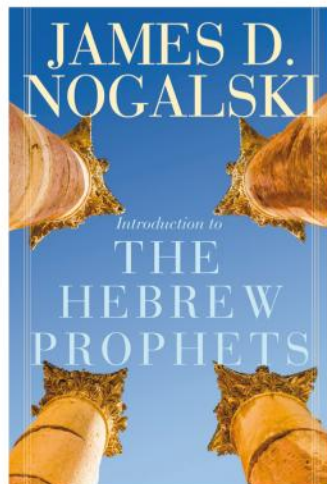
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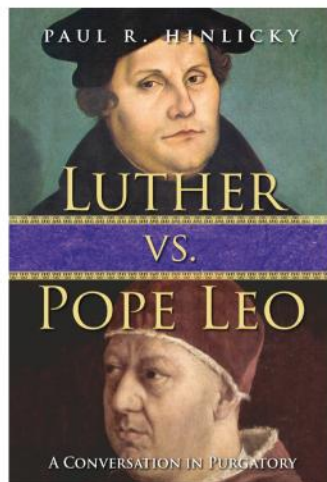
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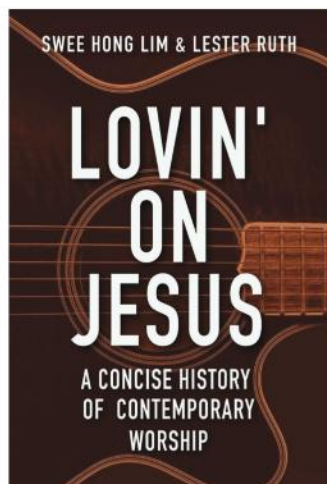
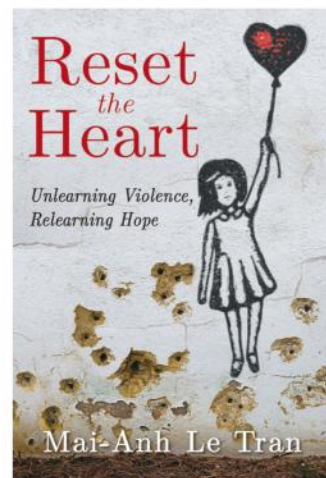
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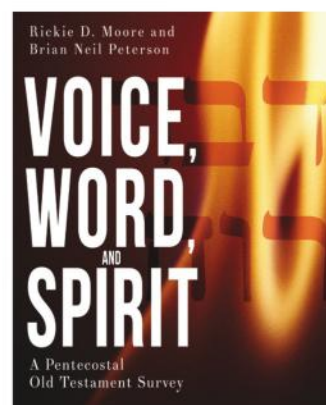
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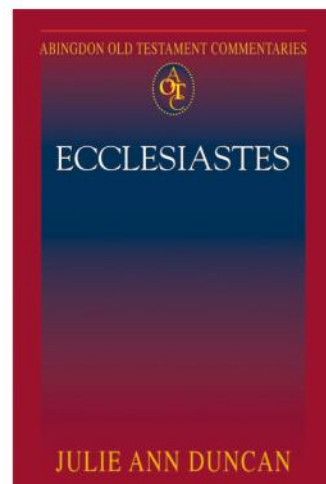
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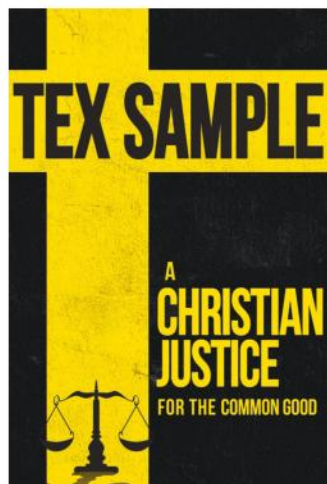
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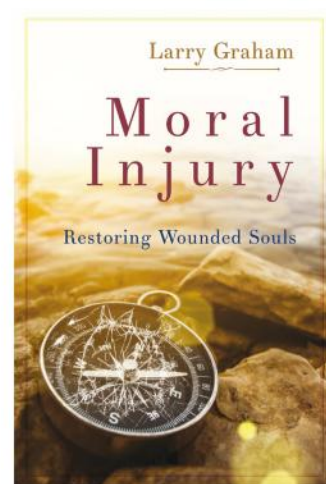
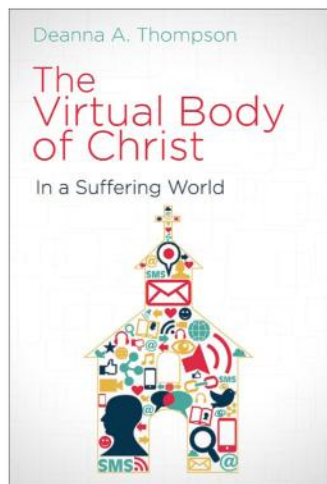
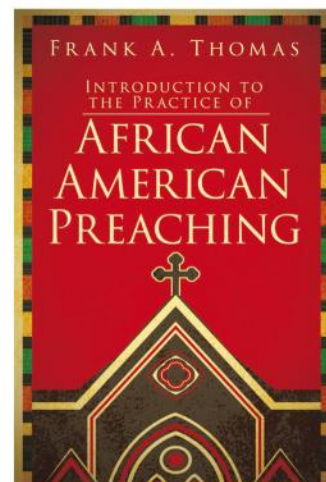
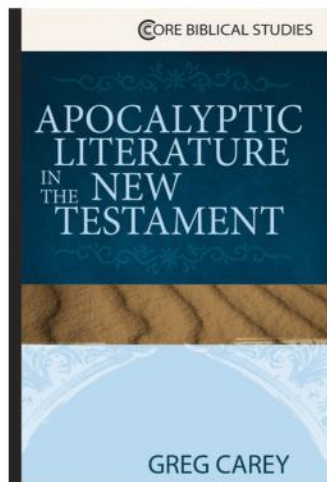
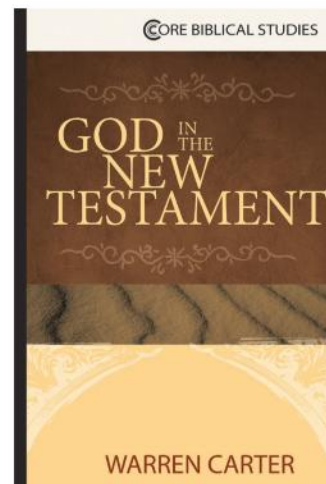
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